WHAT CAN ONE REASONABLY SAY ABOUT NONEXISTENCE? A TIBETAN WORK ON THE PROBLEM OF *ĀŚRAYĀSIDDHA**

The fallacy of āśrayāsiddhahetu, or a "logical reason whose basis is unestablished" arises when the subject of an argument is nonexistent; in usual cases, this subject failure implies that the proposition to be proved (sādhya) cannot be established – Buddhists such as Dharmakīrti repeatedly stress that when the subject fails, a debate about its properties ceases. To take an invented example, if one says that "Pegasus flies around the Aegean", it suffices to show that there is no Pegasus and one will have, ipso facto, short-circuited the question of "his" flight, or even proved the contrary, i.e. that he does not fly. Similarly, if someone shows that the Primordial Matter (pradhāna) accepted in Sāmkhya philosophy does not actually exist, then the Sāmkhya's own thesis that pradhāna has such and such properties will thereby be refuted. The problem however becomes thorny when one is proving simple nonexistence of some pseudo-entity, for then the case should be different from that of Pegasus's supposed flight. The height of absurdity would be if all proofs of nonexistence became self-refuting because the subject failed to exist.

The problem of āśrayāsiddha is taken up in various Buddhist contexts – typically in connection with proofs of momentariness (ksanabhangasiddhi)² and in connection with later Madhyamaka proofs of the absence of intrinsic nature (nihsvabhāvatā). Although it is certainly not our intention to inventory all the considerable Indian and Tibetan Buddhist literature on this problem of āśrayāsiddha, or even the majority of texts in which the problem figures, certain seminal works do stand out and are repeatedly cited. Besides passages from Dignāga, we should mention the substantial and influential sections in Dharmakīrti's Pramānavārttika IV, k. 136–148 and Pramānaviniścaya III, as well as those in the works of Kamalaśīla, in particular his Madhyamakāloka. The Tibetan treatment is largely centered around Tsong kha pa's dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris, his commentary on the Madhyamakālamkāra in which he integrates and elaborates upon the key passages in Dignāga, Dharmakīrti and Kamalaśīla. Although there are some relatively brief

passages in the Sa skya pa Rigs gter and Pramānavārttika commentaries (e.g. gSer mdog Pan chen Śākya mchog ldan sketches out some significant differences from the treatment in dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris³), it does seem that the problem of āśrayāsiddha was not treated nearly as thoroughly in the other schools as in the dGe lugs, where it became a recurring topos figuring markedly in numerous works. The present article consists primarily in a translation of the section on aśrayasiddha in a text by A lag sha Ngag dbang bstan dar (1759-1840), a dGe lugs pa scholar who was from the A la shan region of Inner Mongolia but wrote in Tibetan and who was, in our opinion, remarkable for his clear and often quite innovative thinking. His gCig du bral gyi rnam bzhag is a Madhyamaka work, one that treats of various problems centered around the Svātantrika Madhyamaka's use of the ekānekaviyogahetu (= gcig du bral gyi gtan tshigs "neither one nor many reason [for śūnyatā]"). For Ngag dbang bstan dar the problem of āśrayāsiddha arises when the Madhyamaka uses logical reasons like the ekānekaviyogahetu to prove ultimate voidness of things; it also occurs when he uses logical reasoning to prove that pseudo-entities do not exist at all. Ngag dbang bstan dar, thus, like his Indian and Tibetan Svātantrika predecessors, zig-zags between the Madhyamaka and logicians' positions, using the latter to buttress the former.

A striking aspect of the later Indian and Tibetan explanations of āśrayāsiddha is that certain earlier texts are almost invariably cited in later ones, giving a kind of "unfolding telescope" effect where each subsequent text includes its predecessors but seems to enlarge upon them and carry the ideas a few steps further, all the while seeking to remain faithful to the original intentions of Dignaga. This impression is, however, potentially misleading. In fact, be it the position of Kamalaśīla, that of Tsong kha pa or Ngag dbang bstan dar, what is at stake is a complex synthesis of disparate doctrine that has been elaborated over time; it would thus be a mistake if the seeming elegance of the unfolding telescope presentations lulled us into thinking that the later presentation was also ahistorically present ab initio. Lopez, in his Study of Svātantrika, has described the Tibetan theory on āśravāsiddha as it is found in Tsong kha pa, rGyal tshab and lCang skya rol pa'i rdo rje and others: this constitutes the received position for Ngag dbang bstan dar. The section in dBu ma rgyan gyis zin bris treating of āśrayāsiddha has been translated in Tillemans (1984). As we shall try to show in the rather extensive explanatory notes to our translation, the positions that we find in Tsong kha pa, Ngag dbang bstan dar and others had an

intricate history that certainly did not just consist in bringing out what Dignāga and Dharmakīrti and Kamalaśīla had already understood.

Various works of bsTan dar have been studied by now, and it is becoming clear that this later dGe lugs pa thinker did make significant contributions, especially in the domain of ideas and arguments where he often shows originality in building upon and reinterpreting earlier writers. The gCig du bral gyi rnam bzhag, and in particular the section on āśrayāsiddha, is a good case in point. On certain topics, such as avoidance of āśrayāsiddha in cases of simple, non-implicative, negation (prasajyapratiṣedha), bsTan dar makes a radical break with his Indian and Tibetan predecessors, and arguably he is right to do so. The rapprochement with the Madhyamaka debate on "concordantly appearing subjects" (chos can mthun snang ba) is also noteworthy for its philosophical interest, turning as it does on the general problem of the incommensurability of rival theories.

Readers will probably recognize that the problem of talking about non-being has a long history, not only in the East, but in the West, including its twentieth century technical treatment in formal logic's theory of descriptions and in the theory of presuppositions. We add this later Tibetan position on what is one of the most recurrent and interesting problems of philosophy.

TRANSLATION

- §1. Secondly, the doubt that the subject (*chos can; dharmin*) might be unestablished, when one presents the formal argument (*sbyor ngag; prayogavākya*). [Objection:] If we follow what is literally stated in the *Madhyamakālamkāra*, it is evident that one also presents partless consciousness, Primordial Matter (*spyi gtso bo; pradhāna*) and so forth⁵ as subjects of enquiry (*shes 'dod chos can*) for a valid logical reason.⁶ Thus this [reason] would have an unestablished basis (*gzhi ma grub pa; āśrayāsiddha*). Would it not then result that the reason would be one which is unestablished (*ma grub pa; asiddha*) because the entity of the subject does not exist?⁷
- §2. By way of a reply to this [objection], many scholars have said that there is no [such] fault so long as one presents simple negations (*med dgag; prasajyapratisedha*) as both the reason and the property to be proved (*bsgrub bya'i chos; sādhyadharma*), but that should one present a positive phenomenon (*sgrub pa; vidhi*) or an implicative negation (*ma yin dgag; paryudāsapratisedha*), it will then be an unestablished reason.⁸ This does indeed seem to be based on certain statements [in

the works] of Tsong kha pa and his disciples, such as [the passage] in [Tsong kha pa's] dBu ma dgongs pa rab gsal that reads:

The fact that there is no fault, even though the subject stated for that reason might be negated, is due to the essential feature that both the reason and the property [to be proved] are mere exclusions (*rnam bcad tsam*; *vyavacchedamātra*).

However this alone can not eliminate all doubt. Thus it is necessary to explain things as follows. There are cases where [the reason] would not be a reason that is unestablished, in spite of the fact that one might present either an implicative negation or a positive phenomenon for both the reason and the property to be proved. For example, an argument such as "Take as the subject, a rabbit's horn; it is fitting to be designated by the word 'moon', because it exists as an object of conceptual thought." – this [argument] is the idea of 'Jam dbyangs bzhad pa'i rdo rje. Alternatively [there could be the argument], "Take as the subject, being gored by a rabbit's horn; this is a fallacious reason for proving that a person is in pain, because it is a reason that does not have the triple character [needed] for proving that a person is in pain" – this [argument] is the idea in [dGe 'dun grub pa's] *Tshad ma rigs rgyan*. 10

 $\S 3$. The reason why these [arguments] are not reasons that are unestablished because the entity of the subject does not exist devolves from the essential feature that when something is [qualified by] either the reasons or properties to be proved in the proof of these [propositions], it need not be existent. So, even when simple negations are presented as both the reason and property [to be proved], there can also be the fault of the subject being unestablished provided that either the reason or property to be proved in the proof in question is pervaded by being existent, as for example when one proves that [something nonexistent like a rabbit's horn] is the subtle selflessness of the elements (chos kyi bdag med; dharmanairātmya) by means of the reason, "being the consummate [nature]" (yongs grub; parinispanna). 11 Consequently, when one presents an unestablished basis as the subject, then all cases where a thing's being held to be [qualified by] the reason necessitates its being existent will [incur the fault of] being fallacious reasons unestablished because of the nonexistence of the entity of the subject, but when being held to be [qualified by] the reason does not necessitate being existent, then the [reason] will not be fallacious. The details of this way [of distinguishing between faulty reasons and valid ones] should be correctly brought out.

§4. In general, the subject of an argument is of two sorts, the subject that is the [proponent's] own [intended] locus ($rang\ rten\ chos\ can)^{12}$ and

a nominal subject (chos can 'ba' zhig pa; kevaladharmin). 13 Between these two, the subject that is the [proponent's] own [intended] locus is, e.g., when one proves to a Sāmkhya that sound is impermanent by means of the reason that it is produced, for at that time one proves impermanence based upon the simple [commonly recognized entity] sound. A nominal subject is, e.g., when one proves to a Vaisesika that the space, which is [taken by the Vaisesika to be] a real entity (dngos por gyur pa'i nam mkha'; vastubhūtākāśa), is not [in fact] a permanent substance [as they maintain it is] by means of the reason that it does not serve as the locus for other qualities. [This is called a "nominal subject"] because, at that time, one is not proving that being a permanent substance is located in a real entity, space, and thus this type of space is just merely presented as the subject, but is not the locus or subject.¹⁴ Now, something's being a "nominal subject" means that although it might be stated as the subject, it is not the locus of the property to be proved (sādhyadharma), and is thus an unrelated subject. Consequently, although the nominal subject, i.e. the stated subject [as Tsong kha pa refers to it in §2 above], in the argument in question [against the Vaiśesika] is an unestablished basis, the subject that is the [proponent's] own [intended] locus does exist, because at that time it is what appears to the conceptual thought grasping the real entity space (vastubhūtākāśa) as excluded from the contrary of real space that is the [actual] subject or locus for the proof in question. It follows that this is so, because [this appearance] is like that [i.e. is the actual locus], due to the fact that the desire to know (shes 'dod; jijñāsā) occurs once the opponent has mistakenly taken this type of space and the [conceptual] appearance as such [a space] to be identical. ¹⁵ Therefore, in order that we understand this difference between the fact that in the argument in question the subject that is the [proponent's] own locus is an established basis, while the nominal subject that is presented in the actual words is not an established basis, [Dignāga] stated in the *Pramānasamuccaya*:

With regard to the [proponent's] own locus (*rang rten la*), [a thesis is not opposed] by perceptible states of affairs, by inference, by authorities or by what is commonly recognized. ¹⁶

The purpose behind [Dignāga's] not saying "the [proponent's] own subject" (rang gi chos can; svadharmin) here but rather "the [proponent's] own locus" (rang gi rten), was explained in extenso in thirteen verses from the Pratyakṣapariccheda in Pramāṇavārttika, verses that begin "sarvatra vādino ... svao ...".¹⁷

§5. [Objection:] Then, it would follow [absurdly] that the appearance as something excluded from not-sound (sgra ma yin pa las log par

snang ba) would also be the subject that is the [proponent's] own locus when proving that sound is impermanent by means of the reason that it is produced, because that is what you asserted [about space].

§6. [Reply:] This is not the same, because of the following: if something is a valid reason it must be established on the basis of the subject of enquiry in accordance with its mode of presentation ('god tshul), 18 and so, because the appearance to conceptual thought as something excluded from not-sound is an imagined entity (kun brtags; parikalpita), it does not concord at all with being a product. 19 This follows, for it was stated in [Tsong kha pa's] dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris:

If one is proving that sound is impermanent because it is produced, then as the exclusion *qua* appearance (*snang ldog*), which appears to conceptual thought as excluded from not sound, is not a real entity (*dngos po*), the reason, i.e. being produced, does not qualify it. Rather, [being produced] must qualify the basis of the appearance (*snang gzhi*), i.e. sound. This is due to the essential feature that real entities (*dngos po*) are taken as the reason and property to be proved.

The [latter] necessary implication (*khyab pa; vyāpti*) holds, because (a) it is obvious that a conceptual appearance will not be established as the subject of enquiry of an argument where real entities are presented as the reason and property to be proved, and (b) it was stated in the *rNam nges dar tīk* [of rGyal tshab rje]:

The [two cases] are not the same, because the conceptual appearance of space is the subject that is the basis ascertained as [qualified by] the previous reason [in the argument against the Vaisesika], but what appears to conceptual thought as sound cannot be the basis that is ascertained as produced.

- §7. To summarize, although we present space as the subject to the Vaiśesika, it is not the subject, but the appearance of this [space] is the subject. And when we prove that sound is impermanent by means of the reason, being produced, what appears as sound to conceptual thought does not serve as the subject, rather it is mere sound itself that serves as the subject that is the [proponent's] own [intended] locus. The reason for this, if one carries it as far as possible, comes down to whether there is or is not a subject that appears concordantly (*chos can mthun snang ba*) to both the Buddhist and the Vaiśesika, for the Buddhist accepts space as being a simple negation (*med dgag*) consisting in the mere denial of obstruction and contact, whereas the Vaiśesika accepts that it is a real entity (*dngos po*) that is independent (*rang dbang ba*) and is a positive phenomenon (*sgrub pa*).²⁰
- §8. [Objection:] Then it would follow that even sound would not appear concordantly to both [parties], because the Buddhist asserts that sound is derived from the elements ('byung 'gyur; bhautika), whereas

the Vaiseṣika asserts that sound is a quality of space (nam mkha'i yon tan; ākāśaguna).

- §9. [Reply:] This is completely different on account of the essential feature that, to both these [parties], a mere object grasped by the auditive consciousness is established as appearing concordantly as an object found by non-erroneous means of valid cognition (*tshad ma*; *pramāṇa*),²¹ whereas in the case of space, if [the parties] were to search for the designated object (*btags don*), they would find no object established as appearing concordantly apart from the mere verbal designation.
- §10. Moreover, the omniscient lCang skya [Rol pa'i rdo rje] has said that rGyal tshab rje maintained that the conceptual appearance (rtog pa'i snang ba) was the subject, but that mKhas grub rje did not accept that verbal objects (sgra don; śabdārtha) [i.e. conceptual entities] were the subject.²² And the omniscient 'Jam dbyangs bzhad pa has said that taking Primordial Matter as the subject was Dignaga's idea, and that Dharmakīrti's idea was to take the conceptual appearance as the subject. However, suppose we examine their ideas carefully. Then whomsoever's position we might take, be it that of Dignaga and his disciple [Dharmakīrti] or that of Tsong kha pa and his disciples [rGyal tshab rje and mKhas grub rje], if we presented an argument like "Take as the subject, Primordial Matter; it is not the substratum (nyer len; upādāna) for its various manifestations (rnam 'gyur; vikrti), because it is not preceived to be the substratum of its various manifestations", 23 none would deny that it is correct to take what appears as excluded from not-Primordial Matter to the conceptual thought grasping Primordial Matter (gtso bo 'dzin pa'i rtog pa la gtso bo ma yin pa las log par snang ba) as being the subject of this argument. For it was stated in the *Madhyamakāloka* [of Kamalaśīla]:

It is just what exists as an aspect of mind, but is metaphorically designated by the infantile as external and real, that is the subject. Therefore, one negates Primordial Matter and the like in dependence upon that.²⁴

§11. There is a necessary implication (*khyab pa; vyāpti*) here [between what the passage from the *Madhyamakāloka* says and the fact that the subject is a conceptual appearance], because [Kamalaśīla's] words "It is just what exists as an aspect of mind that is the subject" make it clear that he holds the conceptual appearance to be the subject.²⁵ This is also the case because of the following quotations. It is said in the *Svārthānumānapariccheda* [of Dharmakīrti's *Pramānavārttika*]:

A verbal object [can] be a *dharma* of three types [a basis for existence, for non-existence or for both].

[To which] [Dharmakīrti's] Svavrtti states:

Thus, those who depend upon this subject [deliberate about existence and non-existence, asking whether] this object that is represented by the word "Primordial Matter" [does or does not have a real substratum]. ²⁶

In the commentary on this [passage] Śākyabuddhi says:

What is expressed by the word "Primordial Matter", that alone is the subject.

And in [mKhas grub rje's] *rNam 'grel tīk chen rigs pa'i rgya mtsho* it is said:

This means that because it is generally taught that all conceptual appearances are verbal objects (*sgra don; śabdārtha*),²⁷ what appears as Primordial Matter to the conceptual thought grasping Primordial Matter is also established as being a verbal object. And in this way it is the exclusion *qua* basis (*gzhi ldog*) of the verbal object for Primordial Matter, or [in other words] it is just what appears as Primordial Matter to conceptual thought, that is the subject of this argument.²⁸

- §12. Here an opponent might say: Take as the subject the verbal object for Primordial Matter (*gtso bo'i sgra don*); it would follow that this would be the subject of that argument [mentioned earlier], because the appearance as Primordial Matter to the conceptual thought grasping Primordial Matter (*gtso bo 'dzin pa'i rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba*) is the subject of that argument.
 - §13. [We would reply:] There is no necessary implication (*ma khyab*).
- §14. [The opponent:] It would follow that there is a necessary implication, because the appearance as Primordial Matter to conceptual thought is the verbal object for Primordial Matter.
- §15. [We would reply:] Again there is no necessary implication, because there is a difference between an exclusion *qua* thing itself (*rang ldog*) and an exclusion *qua* basis [of the thing] (*gzhi ldog*).²⁹ For it was stated in the same [rNam 'grel] Tīk chen [of mKhas grub rje]:

Therefore, the subject when one says, "Primordial Matter is not existent, because it is not perceived" is neither a real (dngos po ba) Primordial Matter, nor is it the exclusion qua thing itself of the verbal object for Primordial Matter (gtso bo'i sgra don gyi rang ldog). Why? This very appearance as Primordial Matter to conceptual thought is asserted by the Sāmkhyas to be the [actual] Primordial Matter endowed with the five qualities, but in our own system we assert that it is a verbal object. Thus, the conceptual appearance as Primordial Matter is considered to be the subject, because it is the basis of the debate about whether [something] is or is not the Primordial Matter endowed with the five qualities.

A differentiation between the exclusion *qua* thing itself (*rang ldog*) and the exclusion *qua* basis [for the thing] (*gzhi ldog*) is extremely valuable in this context.³⁰

 $\S 16$. This [point] is related to the essential feature that although the Sāmkhya believes in this type of conceptual appearance, he does not

believe that this appearance is a verbal object, for in [mKhas grub rje's] *Tshad ma yid kyi mum sel* it is said:

Also for the foolish opponent to say that the verbal object for this type of [autonomous and substantially existent (rang rkya thub pa'i rdzas yod)] self is the subject would be a proclamation of his own faults since he accepts that the verbal object of this type of self (de lta bu bdag gi sgra don) does not [really] exist.

§17. Thus, it is indeed correct that the conceptual appearance is the subject, but when one is refuting an opponent's position, one does not have to present literally the conceptual appearance as being the subject. Why? It is because the very Primordial Matter, permanent Īśvara, autonomous persons and so forth in which the opponent believes must be explicitly presented as the subjects in just the same way [as the opponent believes in them]. Otherwise there would be the fault that Primordial Matter and so forth would not be negated in themselves (rang ldog nas). For in [rGyal tshab rje's] rNam 'grel thar lam gsal byed it was said:

Their thought according to the Lord of scholars, Kamalaśīla, was that Primordial Matter had to be refuted by [explicitly] taking it as the subject. Otherwise, although [the property of] being the substratum of various manifestations might be negated, Primordial Matter would not be negated in itself (*rang ldog nas*). The basis for ascertaining the reason with a *pramāṇa* is maintained to be just the appearance as Primordial Matter (*gtso bor snang ba nyid*).³²

§18. [Objection:] In that case, it follows that the conceptual appearance cannot correctly be held to be the subject, because it is void of ability to perform a function (*don byed nus pa; arthakriyāsāmarthya*). There is a necessary implication, because whatever is void of ability to perform a function cannot properly be a basis of deliberation for the perspicacious (*rtog ldan; preksāvat*). In this vein, the *Pramānavārttika* stated:

What point is there, for those who have such an aim, in deliberations about a thing that has no ability to perform a function? Why should a woman filled with desire wonder whether a eunuch was handsome or not?

§19. [We reply:] There is no necessary implication (*ma khyab*). This is for the following reasons. The meaning of this quotation is that when someone hopes his desired effect will ensue from some basis, then the basis about which he deliberates must have the ability to perform the function. Thus, [Dharmakīrti] illustrates [his point about the uselessness of deliberation about inefficient things] saying that it is inappropriate, because it would be like, for example, a woman, intent upon sexual pleasure, who took as the subject [of her thought] a eunuch, and after [mistakenly] hearing that he could perform the acts that would give [her pleasure], wondered whether he was handsome or not. Nonetheless,

in general, things that are void of ability to perform a function can properly be bases for [positive] proofs and negations. Indeed, the direct basis (*dngos rten*) for proofs and negations must inevitably be a verbal object. This follows, because:

- (a) the reason why the direct basis must be a verbal object when one is denying that sound is permanent or proving that it is impermanent by the reason of its being produced is also grounded in the fact³³ that the conceptual thought that proves or negates relies upon verbal objects;
- (b) it was said in the *Parārthānumānapariccheda* [of *Pramānavārttika*],
 - ...We accept that all [positive] proof and negation (vidhinisedhana) here [in practical activity ($vyavah\bar{a}ra$)] is in reliance upon a verbal object ..., which has no external basis;³⁴
- (c) when it is said that permanence is negated and impermanence is proved with regard to sound, what is meant [here] is the performance of the function of conceptual thought (*rtog pa'i don byed*), and thus, on such an occasion, particular (*rang mtshan pa; svalakṣaṇa*) sounds, impermanent things or products and so forth do not directly (*dngos su*) appear to the conceptual thought that proves or negates.

In this vein, it was stated in [Tsong kha pa's] dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris:

The [Pramāṇa]vārttika, the sense of Dignāga's statements, states:

However, this condition of practical designations in terms of what infers (*anumāna*) [i.e. the logical reason] and the proposition to be inferred (*anumeyārtha*) is constructed in dependence upon a difference established by means of [conceptual] thought.³⁵

Following this explanation, in cases where the basis must be a real entity (*dngos po*), [such as when one is] proving that sound is impermanent because it is produced or that there is fire on the smoky hill, the direct basis (*dngos rten*) for these proofs and negations is just the object that is the appearance of sound or hill to conceptual thought as things excluded from what they are not. Sound and hill are not, however, themselves direct bases, because they do not directly appear to the conceptual thought that proves or negates.

As for the meaning of conceptual thought performing the function of negation and proof, it is as follows. When, for example, the quality of the subject (*phyogs chos; pakṣadharma*) is established for proving sound to be impermanent by the reason that it is a product, then from the perspective of the opponent, it is as if sound is initially established and after that producthood newly depends upon sound. There is such an appearance (*snang tshul*), but in reality (*gnas tshod la*) there is no such progression.

TIBETAN TEXT OF THE EXCERPT FROM THE GCIG DU BRAL GYI RNAM BZHAG

§1. [453.2; f. 16b] gnyis pa sbyor ngag tu bkod na chos can ma grub pa'i dogs pa ni / dBu ma rgyan gyi tshig zin ltar na / shes pa cha med dang spyi gtso bo sogs kyang rtags sbyor yang dag gi shes 'dod chos can du bkod par mngon pas / de gzhi ma grub pa yin pas rtags de chos can gyi ngo bo med nas ma grub pa'i gtan tshigs su mi 'gyur ram zhe na /

§2. de'i lan la mkhas pa mang pos / rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos gnyis char med dgag yin pa bkod na skyon med kyang sgrub pa dang ma yin dgag bkod na ma grub pa'i rtags su 'gyur zhes smras so // de ni *rNam bshad dgongs pa rab gsal* las /

rtags des a smras pa'i chos can b
kag kyang skyon med pa ni rtags dang chos gnyis ka rnam b
cad tsam b yin pa'i gnad kyis so $/\!/^c$

zhes pa lta bu **rJe yab sras** kyi gsung 'ga' zhig la brten par snang mod / de tsam gyis dogs pa'i mtha' sel mi nus pas 'di ltar bshad dgos te / rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos gnyis char ma yin dgag dang sgrub pa gang rung bkod kyang ma grub pa'i rtags su mi 'gyur ba yang yod de / ri bong rwa chos **[454; f. 17a]** can zla ba zhes pa'i sgras brjod rung yin te / rtog yul na yod pa'i phyir zhes pa'i sbyor ba lta bu'o // 'di '**Jam dbyangs bzhad pa'i rdo rje**'i dgongs pa'o // yang ri bong rwas phug pa chos can / skyes bu sdug bsngal bar sgrub pa'i rtags ltar snang yin te / skyes bu sdug bsngal bar sgrub pa'i tshul gsum ma yin pa'i gtan tshigs yin pa'i phyir zhes pa'i sbyor ba lta bu ste / 'di *Tshad ma rigs rgyan* gyi dgongs pa'o //

§3. de dag chos can gyi ngo bo med nas ma grub pa'i gtan tshigs su mi 'gyur ba'i rgyu mtshan de sgrub kyi rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos gang rung yin na yod pa yin mi dgos pa'i gnad kyis yin pas / des na rtags chos gnyis kar med dgag bkod na yang de sgrub kyi rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos gang rung yin na yod pas khyab pa can yin na chos can ma grub pa'i skyon du 'gyur ba yang yod de / dper na yongs grub kyi rtags kyis chos kyi bdag med phra mo sgrub pa lta bu'o // de'i phyir gzhi ma grub pa chos can du bkod pa'i tshe rtags su bzung ba de yin na yod pa yin dgos phyin chos can gyi ngo bo med nas ma grub pa'i gtan tshigs ltar snang du 'gyur la / rtags su bzung ba de yin na yod pa yin mi dgos na gtan tshigs ltar snang du mi 'gyur ba'i tshul la zhib cha legs par thon dgos so //

^a dGongs pa rab gsal: des. bsTan dar: de'i.

^b bsTan dar omits *tsam*.

^c dBu ma dgongs pa rab gsal f. 200a.

§4. spyir sbyor ba'i chos can la rang rten gyi chos can dang chos can 'ba' zhig pa gnyis las / rang rten gyi chos can ni / Grangs can pa'i ngor^d byas pa'i rtags kyis sgra mi rtag par sgrub pa lta bu yin te / de'i tshe sgra nyid la mi rtag pa brten [455; f. 17b] par sgrub pa vin pa'i phyir ro // chos can 'ba' zhig pa ni / **Bye brag pa**'i ngor yon tan gzhan gyi rten mi byed pa'i rtags kyis dngos por gyur pa'i nam mkha' rtag rdzas ma yin par sgrub pa lta bu yin te / de'i tshe dngos por gyur ba'i nam mkha' la rtag rdzas brten par sgrub pa ma yin pas / de 'dra'i nam mkha' de rten gzhi chos can du ma song bar chos can du bkod pa 'ba' zhig pa yin pa'i phyir / chos can 'ba' zhig pa zhes pa'i don yang chos can du smras kyang bsgrub bya'i chos kyi rten du ma song bar chos can yan gar bar song ba'i don yin pas / de'i phyir sbyor ba de sgrub kyi chos can 'ba' zhig pa ste smras pa'i chos can gzhi ma grub kyang rang rten gyi chos can yod pa yin te / de'i tshe dngos gyur gyi nam mkha' 'dzin pa'i rtog pa la dngos gyur gyi nam mkha' ma yin pa las log par snang ba de sgrub kyi rten gzhi'i chos can du song ba yin pa'i phyir / der thal / phyi rgol gyis de 'dra ba'i nam mkha' dang der snang ba gnyis gcig tu 'khrul nas shes 'dod zhugs pa'i rgyu mtshan gyis de ltar yin pa'i phyir / des na sbyor ba de sgrub kyi rang rten gyi chos can gzhi grub cing tshig yin la bkod pa'i chos can 'ba' zhig pa gzhi ma grub pa'i khyad par 'di 'dra shes pa'i ched du / Tshad ma kun btus las /

mngon sum don dang rjes dpag dang yid ches grags pas rang rten la'o //e

zhes rang gi chos can ma smos par rang gi rten smos pa'i dgos pa / rNam 'grel mngon sum le'u las /

kun tu^f rgol ba bdag nyid kyi /^g

zhes sogs kyi tshigs bcad bcu gsum gyis rgyas par [456; f. 18a] 'chad pa yin no //

§5. 'o na sgra ma yin pa las log par snang ba'ang byas pa'i rtags kyis sgra mi rtag par sgrub pa'i rang rten gyi chos can yin par thal / 'dod pa'i phyir zer na

 $\S 6$. mi mtshungs te / rtags yang dag yin na shes 'dod chos can gyi steng du 'god tshul dang mthun par grub dgos pas / rtog pa la sgra ma yin pa las log par snang ba kun btags yin pas byas pa dang mthun lugs med pa'i phyir / der thal / dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris las /

 $[^]d$ bsTan dar: bor.

^e Pramānasamuccayavrttti(a) ad III.2cd See n. 12.

f PV Tib.: tu. bsTan dar: du.

^g Pramānavārttika IV.136. See n. 17.

byas pas sgra mi rtag par sgrub pa na / rtog pa la sgra ma yin pa las log par snang ba'i snang l \deg^h dngos por med pas byas pa'i rtags de la 'grub pa' \min^j gyi / snang gzhi sgra la grub dgos te / dngos po rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos su byed pa'i gnad kyis so // m

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir / khyab ste / dngos po rtags dang bsgrub bya'i chos su bkod pa'i rtags sbyor gyi shes 'dod chos can la rtog pa'i snang ba mi 'jog par shin tu gsal zhing / rNam nges dar tīk las kyang /

rtog pa la nam mkha' snang ba sngar gyi rtags de nges pa'i gzhi chos can yin la / rtog pa la sgrar snang ba byas par nges pa'i gzhir mi rung ba'i phyir mi mtshungs so $//^n$

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir /

§7. mdor na Bye brag pa'i ngor nam mkha' chos can du bkod kyang de chos can du ma song bar de'i snang ba chos can du song zhing / byas pa'i rtags kyis sgra mi rtag par sgrub pa'i tshe rtog pa la sgrar snang ba chos can du mi 'gro bar sgra nyid rang rten gyi chos can du 'gro ba'i rgyu mtshan mthar gtugs na / Sangs rgyas pa dang Bye brag pa gnyis ka'i ngor chos [457; f. 18b] can mthun snang ba yod med la gtugs pa yin te / Sangs rgyas pas nam mkha' thogs reg bkag tsam gyi med dgag tu 'dod pa gang zhig / Bye brag pas sgrub pa rang dbang ba'i dngos por 'dod pa'i phyir /

- §8. 'o na sgra yang de gnyis ka'i ngor mthun snang du grub pa med par thal. Sangs rgyas pas sgra 'byung 'gyur du 'dod pa gang zhig / Bye brag pas sgra nam mkha'i yon tan du 'dod pa'i phyir zhe na /
- §9. shin tu mi mtshungs te / de gnyis ka'i ngor nyan shes kyi gzung byar gyur pa'i don tsam zhig ma 'khrul ba'i tshad mas rnyed don du mthun snang du grub pa yod la / nam mkha' la ming tsam ma gtogs mthun snang du grub pa'i don btags don btsal na mi rnyed pa'i gnad kyis so //
- §10. gzhan yang lCang skya thams cad mkhyen pas / rGyal tshab rjes rtog pa'i snang ba chos can du bzhed kyang / mKhas grub rjes sgra don chos can du mi bzhed par gsungs la / kun mkhyen 'Jam dbyangs bzhad pas / gtso bo chos can du bzung ba Phyogs glang gi dgongs pa dang / rtog pa'i snang ba chos can du bzung ba Chos grags kyi dgongs pa yin gsungs kyang / dgongs pa zhib tu brtag na Phyogs

^h dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris f. 10a and other editions in Tillemans (1984) p. 385: snang ldog. bsTan dar: snang ldog dang.

i Zin bris: 'grub. bsTan dar: sgrub.

^j Zin bris: min. bsTan dar: ma yin.

^k Zin bris: grub. bsTan dar: sgrub.

¹ Zin bris f. 10a and other editions: dngos po. bsTan dar: dngos pos.

^m dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris, f. 9b-10a. See Tillemans (1984) p. 385.

ⁿ rNam nges dar tīk, f. unidentified.

glang yab sras dang rJe yab sras su'i lungs byas kyang / gtso bo chos can / rnam 'gyur sna tshogs kyi nyer len du med de / rman 'gyur sna tshogs kyi nyer len du ma dmigs pa'i phyir / zhes pa'i sbyor ba 'di la mtshon na / gtso bo 'dzin pa'i rtog pa la gtso bo ma yin pa las log par snang ba rtags sbyor de'i chos can du 'dzin rigs pa la sus kyang bsnyon du med de / dBu ma snang ba las /

byis pa rnams kyis phyi rol dang dngos po nyid du nye bar btags pa blo la rnam pa o yod [458; f. 19a] pa nyid chos can yin te / de'i phyir de la brten nas gtso bo la sogs pa 'gog par byed do // p

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir /

§11. khyab ste / blo la rnam pa yod pa nyid chos can yin zhes pas rtog pa'i snang ba chos can du 'dzin par gsal zhing / Rang don le'ur /

sgra don chos ni rnam pa gsum $//^q$

zhes dang / Rang 'grel las /

de bas na chos can de la brten nas ci r gto bo'i sgra las snang ba'i don 'di ni / [dngos po nye bar len pa can nam ma yin zhes yod pa dang med pa nyid dpyod par byed do] s

zhes dang / de'i 'grel bshad du / Śā kya blos kyang /

gtso bo la sogs pa'i sgras brjod par bya ba de nyid ni chos can yin la $/^t$

zhes dang / rNam 'grel tīk chen rigs pa'i rgya mtsho las /

de ltar rtog pa'i snang ba thams cad sgra don yin no zhes spyir bstan pas gtso bo 'dzin pa'i rtog pa u la gtso bor snang ba'ang sgra don du grub la / de ltar gtso bo'i sgra don gyi gzhi ldog rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba de nyid rtags sbyor de'i chos can yin zhes bya ba'i don no // v

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir /

§12. de la kho na re / gtso bo'i sgra don chos can / rtags sbyor de'i chos can yin par thal / gtso bo 'dzin pa'i rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba rtags sbyor de'i chos can yin pa'i phyir na /

o rnam pa not in Peking and sDe dge editions of Madhyamakāloka. See n. 24

^p P. 190a, D. 174a. See n. 24.

^q Pramāṇavārittika I.205cd: śabdārthas trividho dharmo bhāvābhāvobhayāśrayah //.

^r Svavrtti Tib.: ci. bsTan dar: spyi. See n. 26.

^s Pramānavārttikasvavrtti ad PV I.206 (P. 477a3-4; D. 321a2): de bas na chos can 'di la brten nas ci gtso bo'i sgra las snang ba'i don 'di ni [dngos po nye bar len pa can nam* ma yin zhes yod pa dang med pa nyid dpyod** par byed do] /. (*P. omits nam. **P.D. spyod) Skt. ed Gnoli p. 106: tad atra dharmini vyavasthitāh [sadasattvam cintayanti] (/) kim ayam pradhānaśabdapratibhāsy artho [bhāvopādāno na veti]/. See n. 26.

^t Pramāṇavārttikatīkā P. 279b7, D. 238a3.

^u rNam 'grel tīk chen: gtso 'dzin rtog pa.

v Vol. tha f. 149a.

- §**13.** ma khyab /
- §14. khyab par thal / rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba gtso bo'i sgra don yin pa'i phyir na /
- §15. yang ma khyab / rang ldog dang gzhi ldog gi khyad par yod pa'i phyir te / *Tīk chen* de nyid las /

des na gtso bo ni yod pa ma yin te ma dmigs pa'i phyir zhes pa'i rtags kyi shes 'dod chos can ni / gtso bo dngos po ba yang ma yin la / gtso bo'i sgra don gyi rang ldog kyang ma yin gyi / 'o na ci zhe na / rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba de nyid **Grangs can [459; f. 19b] pa**^w dag gtso bo khyad par lnga ldan du 'dod la / rang lugs la sgra don du 'dod pas / khyad par lnga ldan gyi gtso bo yin min rtsod pa'i gzhi yin pa'i phyir rtog pa la gtso bor snang ba chos can du gzung bar byas pa yin no //^x

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir / rang ldog dang gzhi ldog gi khyad par phye ba skabs 'dir shin tu gces so //

§16. de yang Grang can pas de lta bu'i rtog pa'i snang ba khas len kyang snang ba de sgra don du khas mi len pa'i gnad la thug pa yang yin te / *Tshad ma yid kyi mun sel* /

yang blun po kha cig gis de l
ta bu bdag gi sgra don chos can yin no zhes zer ba ni / de l
ta bu bdag gi sgra don med par khas blangs pa yin pas rang gi mtshang bs
grags pa yin no $//^y$

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir /

§17. de ltar rtog pa'i snang ba chos can du rigs mod / 'on kyang pha rol po'i 'dod pa 'gog pa na rtog pa'i snang ba tshig zin la chos can du 'god dgos pa yang ma yin no // 'o na ci zhe na / spyi gtso bo dang rtag pa'i dbang phyug dang gang zag rang rkya ba sogs pha rol pos gang khas blangs pa de nyid ji lta ba bzhin chos can du dngos su 'god dgos te / de lta ma yin na gtso bo la sogs pa rang ldog nas mi khegs pa'i skyon yod pa'i phyir te / rNam 'grel thar lam gsal byed las /

de dag gi dgongs pa mkhas pa'i dbang po **Ka ma la \pmi las** / gtso bo nyid chos can du bzung nas dgag dgos kyi / de min na rnam 'gyur sna tshogs kyi nyer len yin pa khegs kyang / gtso bo rang ldog nas mi khegs par 'gyur la / rtags tshad mas nges pa'i gzhi ni gtso bor snang ba nyid la bzhed do // z

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir /

§18. de la gal te rtog pa'i snang ba [460; f. 20a] chos can du 'dzin mi rigs par thal / de don byed nus stong yin pa'i phyir / khyab te / don byed nus pa ma yin na rgol ba rtog ldan gyi dpyad gzhir mi rung bas khyab pa'i phyir / de skad du *rNam 'grel* las /

w rNam 'grel tīk chen reads gangs can pa, which is surely wrong.

^x rNam 'grel tīk chen vol. tha f. 149a-b.

^y F. 151b.

^z F. 95b–96a.

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don byed nus pa ma yin la // don gnyer brtag pas ci zhig bya // ma ning gzugs bzang mi bzang zhes // 'dod ldan^{aa} rnams kyis brtag ci phan //^{bb}
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zhes gsungs pa'i phyir na /

§19. ma khyab ste / lung de'i don ni rang 'dod pa'i 'bras bu gzhi de las 'grub tu re nas dpyod pa'i gzhi la don byed nus pa dgos zhes pa yin pas / de ni dper na 'khrig pa'i bde ba don du gnyer ba'i bud med kyis / ma ning khyad gzhir bzung nas des skyes pa'i bya ba byed par go nas de'i gzugs mdzes mi mdzes la dpyod pa dang 'dra bas mi 'thad ces ston pa yin gyi / spyir dgag sgrub kyi gzhi la don byed nus stong rung bar ma zad / dgag sgrub byed pa'i dngos kyi rten la sgra don nges can du dgos pa'i phyir / der thal / byas pa'i rtags kyis sgra la rtag^{cc} dgag pa dang mi rtag pa sgrub pa'i dngos kyi rten sgra don yin dgos pa'i rgyu mtshan yang / dgag sgrub byed pa'i rtog pa rnams sgra don la brten pa'i rgyu mtshan gyis yin pa'i phyir / gZhan don le'u las /

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phyi rol rten min sgra don la // brten nas 'dir ni sgrub pa dang // dgag pa thams cad 'dod pa yin //^{dd}
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zhes gsungs pa'i phyir dang / sgra'i steng du rtag pa dgag pa dang mi rtag pa sgrub ces pa'i don yang rtog pa'i don byed pa yin pas / de'i tshe dgag sgrub byed pa'i rtog pa de dag la sgra dang byas mi rtag sogs rang mtshan pa dngos su mi [461; f. 20b] snang ba'i phyir / de skad du dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris las /

Phyogs glang gis gsungs pa'i don rNam 'grel las /

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dpag bya dpog par byed pa yi^{ee} // don gyi tha snyad gnas pa 'di // shes pa la grub tha dad la // brten nas rnam par brtags pa^f yin //^{gg}
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^{aa} PV Tib.: 'dod ldan (= kāminyāḥ). bsTan dar: rtog ldan.

bb Pramānavārttika I.211: arthakriyāśamarthasya vicāraih kim tadarthinām / sandhasya rūpavairūpye kāminyāh kim parīksayā //.

cc bsTan dar: rtags.

^{dd} Pramānavārttika IV.228bcd: [tasmād] āśritya śabdārtham [bhāvābhāvasamāśrayam] / abāhyāśrayam atreṣṭam sarvam vidhiniṣedhanam /. See n. 34.

ee PV Tib, Zin bris: yi. bsTan dar: dag.

ff PV Tib, Zin bris: brtags pa. bsTan dar: dag pa.

⁹⁹ Pramānavārttika IV.183: anumānānumeyārthavyavahārasthitis tv iyam / bhedam pratyayasamsiddham avalambya prakalpyate //. The text of PV Tib. cited in dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris shows none of bsTan dar's "variants".

zhes gsungs pa ltar / gzhi dngos po dgos pa byas pas sgra mi rtag pa dang du ba la la $^{h\,h}$ me yod du sgrub pa la yang / rtog pa la sgra dang la gnyis de gnyis ma yin pa las log par snang ba'i don nyid dgag sgrub kyi dngos rten yin gyi / sgra dang la nyid dngos kyi rten ma yin te / dgag sgrub byed pa'i rtog pa la dngos su mi snang ba'i phyir dang/ ii

zhes gsungs pa'i phyir / dgag sgrub rtog pa'i don byed ces pa'i don yang dper na byas pa'i rtags kyis sgra mi rtag par sgrub pa'i phyogs chos grub pa na / phyi rgol de'i rtog ngo na / sgra dang por grub nas de'i rjes su sgra la byas pa gsar du brten pa lta bu'i snang tshul yod cing / gnas tshod la rim pa de 'dra med pa'i don no //

NOTES

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- See n. 17 and 7.
- ² See Mimaki (1976) pp. 60–61.
- ³ See e.g. his *Tshad ma rigs gter dgongs rgyan smad cha* f. 76a1–7 (p. 151). Śākya mchog ldan's position turns on the Rigs gter ba *apoha* theory's contrast between theoretical explanation ('chad pa) and pratical application ('jug pa) and especially the contrast between an object of conceptual thought as it really is (song tshod) (i.e. a mental representation) and what we mistakenly assume it to be (rlom tshod). See Tillemans (1995) p. 869 and n. 19, Dreyfus (1997) pp. 161, 163, 167 et passim. Note that this latter schema, i.e. song tshod kyi chos can and rlom tshod kyi chos can is applied to the problem of āśrayāsiddha in a way that does not seem to coincide fully with the svadharmin and kevaladharmin contrast. See n. 13 on svadharmin vs. kevaladharmin.
- ⁴ Selections from his work on particulars and universals, i.e. his *Rang mtshan spyi mtshan gyi rnam bzhag rtsom 'phro*, have been translated in Klein (1991). A translation of his commentary on the *Heart Sūtra* appears in Lopez (1988), pp. 137–159. His work on the proof of the Buddha's authority in Dharmakīrti's *Pramāṇavārttika*, i.e. the *sTon pa tshad ma'i skyes bur sgrub pa'i gtam*, has been translated and studied in Tillemans (1993). Lopez (1987) refers to many parts of bsTan dar's *gCig du bral gyi rnam bzhag*. Finally, elements of bsTan dar's grammatical work, the *Sum cu pa dang rtags 'jug gi don go sla bar bsdus pa'i bshad pa skal ldan yid kyi pad ma 'byed pa'i snang ba'i mdzod*, have been studied in T. Tillemans and D. Herforth, *Agents and Actions in Classical Tibetan*, Vienna, 1989.
- ⁵ Cf. Madhyamakālamkāra, k. 1: nihsvabhāvā amī bhāvās tattvatah svaparoditāh / ekānekasvabhāvena viyogāt pratibimbavat // Śāntarakṣita proposes to show that entities accepted by Buddhists as well as those advocated by non-Buddhist adversaries are without any intrinsic nature (svabhāva) because of being neither one nor many different things. Skt. in Bodhicaryāvatārapañjikā 173.17–18; translation Ichigo (1985) p. cxxxv. Note that following rGyal tshab's dBu ma rgyan gyi brjed byang (Sarnath

 $^{^{}hh}$ See Tillemans (1984) p. 385, n. 12 on du ba la la. bsTan dar: du bas la. Zin bris f. 9b: du ba la.

ii F. 9a-b. Tillemans (1984) p. 384.

edition, 1976) p. 80, the refutation of partless consciousness is in the context of the refutation of the Sautrantika view that the "manifold is non-dual" (sna tshogs gnyis med pa). The Madhyamaka argues that the aspects/images (rnam pa; ākāra) cannot be substantially distinct (rdzas tha dad) from each other, because they are not substantially distinct from a partless unitary consciousness (shes pa cha med gcig). mDo sde pa'i lugs dgag pa la / sna tshogs gnyis med pa / sgo nga phyad tshal ba / rnam shes grangs mnyam pa'i lugs dgag pa'o // dang po ni / shes sogs bzhi la / shes pa gcig la sngo ser dkar dmar sogs rnam pa du ma shar ba'i tshe rnam pa de rnams rdzas tha dad min par thal / de rnams shes pa cha med gcig dang tha dad min pa'i phyir /. Cf. Madhyamakālamkāra 34 et sq.; cf. also Tsong kha pa's dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris f. 8a (Sarnath ed. p. 41; transl. Tillemans [1984] p. 365): gal te sbyor ba 'di rang rgyud du byed na / gzhan gyis smras pa'i bdag dang dbang phyug la sogs pa dang / rang sdes smras pa'i sdug bsngal dang/ shes pa cha med kyi chos can ma grub pas / phyogs chos ma grub par 'gyur bas mi 'thad do zhe na / - the entities accepted by others include the $\bar{a}tman$ and $\bar{I}svara$, while those accepted by the Buddhists include suffering, partless consciousnesses and so forth.

⁶ The term is an adaptation of the İndian Buddhist requirement that debate be about what the opponent desires to know (jijñāsā, jijñāsita), i.e. whether a certain property qualifies a certain subject. Cf. e.g. Nyāyabinduṭīkā ad III. 92: prativādino hi yaj jijñāsitam tat prakaraṇāpannam /. On the term shes 'dod chos can (*jijñāsitadharmin), see the definition in Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs (ed. Onoda) p. 17.

⁷ For the varieties of asiddhahetu, see Nyāyabindu (NB) III.57 et sq. (transl. Stcherbatsky p. 172ff.) and in particular NB III.65 on dharmyasiddha; for the dGe lugs pa classification see Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs, p. 57, which speaks of a triple classification of asiddhahetu, those which are due to objective facts (don la ltos pa), due to attitudes (blo la ltos pa) such as doubt, and those which are due to the debaters (rgol ba la ltos pa) having incompatible views on the nature of the subject. The "reason that is unestablished (asiddha) because of the nonexistence of the entity of the subject" (chos can gyi ngo bo med nas ma grub pa'i gtan tshig) is a subdivision of the first category.

On these two types of negation, see Kajiyama (1973) p. 167f. and the references in his n. 1. Indian Buddhist logicians had the important insight that proving a mere negation of existence is, in its logical structure, quite different from proving positive qualities, and that in the former case (i.e. simple denial along the lines of "it is not so that S is existent") subject failure is not a problem at all whereas in the latter case it is. Cf. Matilal (1970). Tibetan explanations of āśrayāsiddha, such as those found in dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris and lCang skya grub mtha', generally cite a passage from Kamalaśīla's Madhyamakāloka as being the source for this idea. The quotation in question is found in Madhyamakāloka D. 172a6-b1, P. 188a3-6: gang la dngos po'i chos yod pa'i ngo bor sgrub par mi 'dod kyi don kyang sgro btags pa'i chos rnam par gcad pa sgrub pa tsam zhig brjod par 'dod pa de la ni ma grub pa nyid la sogs pa'i nyes pa brjod pa tha snyad du yang dngos por gyur pa'i chos can mi dgos te / de ni de'i chos ma yin pa'i phyir ro // de la ltos nas kyang de'i chos can nyid du mi 'thad pa'i phyir ro // de ma grub tu zin kyang bsgrub par bya ba med na de mi 'byung ba'i gtan tshigs mngon par 'dod pa'i don grub pa la gegs byed pa med pa'i phyir ro //; translated in Lopez (1987) p. 358. On Kamalaśīla's different treatment of āśrayāsiddha in his earlier Madhyamakālamkārapañjikā and in the later Madhyamakāloka, see Kobayashi (1989). The Tibetan dGe lugs pa treatment of the problem has been developed in detail in Lopez (1987) pp. 168–180, Klein (1991) pp. 118-119, 173-181 et passim.

In fact the central idea in the *Madhyamakāloka* that one avoided *āśrayāsiddha* when the property being proved was a simple negation was already clearly formulated well before Kamalaśīla. What we find in the Indian Buddhist literature is that Dharmakīrtian commentators, like Devendrabuddhi and Śakyabuddhi, in their explanations of

Pramānavārttika IV k. 136–148, emphasize the idea that subjects, like space, taken as real (dngos por gyur $pa = vastubh\bar{u}ta$) by the opponents, are kevala in nonexistence proofs where the property to be proved and the reason are "mere exclusions" (rnam par gcod pa tsam = vyavacchedamātra); in these special cases, the subjects can be negated with impunity. Although Devendrabuddhi himself does not gloss these "mere exclusions" by the notion of non-implicative negations (prasajyapratisedha) so often invoked in Buddhist philosophy, the transition is very natural and is, indeed, explicitly made by Śākyabuddhi: mere exclusion means that no entity or positive property is stated, implied or presupposed. See Pramānavārttikapañjikā D. 296b4 et seq. and Pramānavārttikatīkā D. 269a4-5: gtan tshigs rnam par gcod pa'i ngo bo ma grub pa nyid ma yin no zhes bya ba ni / cig car sgra sogs rgyu min phyir / zhes bya ba'i gtsan tshigs rnam par gcod pa tsam gyi ngo bo med par dgag pa tsam gyi mtshan nyid ma grub pa nyid ma yin te / dngos por gyur pa'i chos can med na yang tha snyad pa'i chos can rnam par gcod pa tsam la gnod pa med pa'i phyir ro //. "When [Devendrabuddhi] says 'a logical reason that is of the nature of an exclusion is not unestablished', he means that a logical reason like 'because it is not the cause for [producing its various effects like] sound etc. all at once', which is of the nature of a mere exclusion, i.e. which has the character of a simple prasajyapratisedha, is not unestablished. This is because inspite of there being no subject that would be a real entity, there is no invalidation of the mere exclusion of the conventionally designated subject". Our thanks to Mr. Ryusei Keira for making us aware of this passage from Śākyabuddhi.

This position concerning "mere exclusion" was adopted by later Indian writers such as Prajñākaragupta, Kamalaśīla and by Tibetans such as Tsong kha pa *et al.*, with the *further* development that it was argued that when a Buddhist logician was proving a mere exclusion, or non-implicative negation (e.g. that such and such a pseudo-entity did not exist), the Buddhist proponent's intended subject, the *svadharmin*, was just the conceptual image. (In the case of Dharmakīrti and Devendrabuddhi it is not at all clear that this last additional development is also attributable to them. See n. 13.) Ngag dbang bstan shows the rough edges and pitfalls of this Indo-Tibetan attempt to use the distinction between the two types of negation as a watertight way to delineate between harmless subject failures and genuine *āśrayāsiddha*.

⁹ Unidentified in 'Jam dbyangs bzhad pa. The example purports to show that the property being predicated of a nonexistent subject (like a rabbit's horn) can be a positive entity (vidhi) or an implicative negation: it need not necessarily be a prasajyapratisedha if we are to avoid āśrayāsiddha. The property being proved here, viz. "being fitting (rung ba = yogya) to be designated by the word 'moon'", is itself a positive entity. Ngag dbang bstan dar, supposedly following 'Jam dbyangs bzhad pa, has hearkened back to the argumentation found in the pratītibādhā section in Pramānavārttika (PV) IV.109-130, Nyāyabindu III, Pramānaviniścaya III etc., where Dharmakīrti develops the idea that any word is fitting (yogya) to designate any object, the use and correctness of words depending only upon the speaker's linguistic intention (vivaksā). Cf. PV IV. 109: arthesv apratisiddhatvāt purusecchānurodhinah / istaśabdābhidheyatvasyāpto 'trāksatavāg janah // "An intended word's designatum (abhidheya), which is in keeping with people's wishes, is unrestricted with regard to objects. Therefore, the person [i.e. the user of language], whose speech is unopposed, is an authority here [i.e. with regard to the designatum of the word]". This doctrine of unrestricted yogyatā is being alluded to in the present argument. Thus, a rabbit's horn is indeed fitting to be the designatum (abhidheya) of the word "moon", in that there is no objective or intrinsic nature found in words or objects that would preclude such a use.

Ngag bdang bstan dar is obviously playing with a frequently found reasoning (prayoga) called grags pa'i rtags ("reason for a conventional concept" [grags

pa = prasiddha, pratīti]). This reasoning is given in Indian and Tibetan texts to establish the fact that śaśin (ri bong can, "that which has a rabbit", "that which is hare-marked") is fitting to be the designatum of the word candra ("moon"). The trick is to change ri bong can to ri bong rwa ("the rabbit's horn"). On the Indian reasoning, see Dharmottarapradīpa 184.16–17: evam tu prayogo drastavyah yo 'rtho vikalpavijñānavisayah sa sāmketikena śabdena vaktum śakyah / yathā śākhādimān artho vrksaśabdena / vikalpavijñānavisayaś ca śaśīti / "The formal argument (prayoga) should be regarded as follows: 'Whatever entity is the object of a conceptual cognition, can be designated by an agreed upon word, just like the entity having branches and so forth [can be designated] by the word 'tree'. Now, śaśin is the object of a conceptual cognition". (The conclusion is that śaśin can be designated by the agreed upon word candra.) The usual Tibetan formulation of the prayoga is: ri bong can la zla ba zhes pa'i sgras brjod rung ba yin te / rtog yul na yod pa'i phyir / "That which is hare-marked is fitting to be designated by the word 'moon' because it exists as an object of conceptualization"; see Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs p. 46. See Tshad ma rigs rgyan f. 117a.

¹¹ See Lopez (1987) pp. 173–174. Just as it was shown that avoidance of āśrayāsiddha is possible even where the property is a positive entity, so now Ngag bdang bstan dar shows that the reason and property being non-implicative negations will not guarantee that āśrayāsiddha is avoided. To say that the rabbit's horn is the subtle selflessness of the elements because it is their consummate nature is a case of āśrayāsiddha, even though both the reason and the property are simple negations. In short, it is not so that āśrayāsiddha is avoided if and only if the reason and property are vyavacchedamātra. Ngag dbang bstan dar, to his credit, proposes a stricter criterion than had his Indo-Tibetan predecessors: āśrayāsiddha will be avoided if and only if the reason and property do not imply existence. The innovation here is discrete, but it represents a radically different, and even in some ways better, approach: it turns on the sound logical insight that certain properties (like being blue, etc.) imply existence, while others (like "being thought of") do not, and that subject failure will lead to refutation in all and only the former types of cases.

The term rang rten chos can is most likely a Tibetan invention, based on Tibetan writers' choice of a rather misleading Tibetan translation of the *Pramānasamuccavavrtti* (PSV), a translation which was also reflected in the sDe dge and Co ne editions of Pramāṇasamuccaya (PS) III.2. See Tillemans (1984) n. 42 for the details. In brief, PSV(a) ad Pramānasamuccaya (PS) III.2cd reads de yang ma bsal ba'o // mngon sum don dang rjes dpag dang // yid ches grags pas rang rten la'o, whereas the Peking version of PS III.2cd and of PSV(b) have: rang gi chos can la mngon sum don dang ries dpag dang // yid ches grags pas ma bsal ba'o //. See Kitagawa (1973) pp. 471-472. What happened is that major dGe lugs and Sa skya writers cited PSV(a)'s text mngon sum ... rang rten la'o without the initial de yang ma bsal ba'o, which they probably considered to be an independent sentence due to its final particle. Now, we do have Sanskrit fragments of PS III.2: svarūpenaiva nirdešyah svayam isto 'nirākrtah / pratyaksārthānumānāptaprasiddhena svadharmini // "[A valid thesis] is one which is intended (ista) by the [the proponent] himself (svayam) as something to be stated (nirdesya) according to its essence alone (svarūpenaiva) [i.e. as a sādhya]; [and] with regard to [the proponent's] own subject (svadharmin), it is not opposed (anirākrta) by perceptible objects (pratyaksārtha), by inference (anumāna), by authorities (āpta) or by what is commonly recognized (prasiddha)". It can be seen that anirākrta = ma bsal ba, and that placing this before mngon sum ... rten la'o is an attempt to follow the Skt. word order, but is virtually incomprehensible in Tibetan: hence PSV(b) and the Peking version of PS III.2 is preferrable, also because it reads rang gi chos can (= svadharmin). Nonetheless, most Tibetan writers seem to have chosen PSV(a)'s reading; such is the case for Tsong kha pa, Go rams pa bSod nams seng ge, Śākya mchog ldan, but also for the earlier writer bTsun pa

ston gzhon (13th C), who in his *rNam* 'grel gyi rnam bshad gangs can gyi rgyan, p. 438 clearly gives credence to PSV(a): rang rten la'o zhes rang gi chos can smos pa la dgos pa ci yod ... Finally not just Tsong kha pa, but rGyal tshab in his rNam 'grel thar lam gsal byed to PV IV k. 136–148 repeatedly phrased his explanations in terms of rang rten chos can. In what is an ironic, but understandable blunder, Ngag dbang bstan dar will subsequently on p. 455 argue that Dignāga himself did not speak of rang gi chos can (svadharmin), but rather rang gyi rten.

Ngag dbang bstan dar has introduced one of the key themes in the Indo-Tibetan explanations of āśrayāsiddha, viz. the contrast between svadharmin and kevaladharmin. Amongst Indian authors, the starting point in their discussion of āśrayāsiddha consists in Dignāga's definition of the thesis (pakṣalakṣana) in Pramānasamuccaya III.2, in particular, the specification that the thesis should not be opposed (anirākṛta) by perception and other means of valid cognition with regard to the proponent's own intended subject (svadharmini "with regard to his own subject"). See n. 12. While Dignāga only spoke of svadharmin, Dharmakīrti in Pramānavārttika (PV) IV, k. 136–148 introduced the idea of a contrast between svadharmin and kevaladharmin, the latter being a nominal or unrelated subject, one which may be merely stated but which is not actually what is qualified by the property to be proved. This contrast comes up again and again in Ngag dbang bstan dar, and indeed he mentions the twelve Kārikās in Pramāṇavārttika IV (not III!) as being the Indian source.

Important in the philosophical background to this discussion of svadharmin and kevaladharmin (although not so often explicitly cited in Tibetan texts) is Dignāga's treatment in the Nyāyamukha of the Sāmkhya's arguments concerning Primordial Matter (pradhāna) and other such postulates in the Sāmkhya system. Dignāga had argued "pradhāna and so forth do not exist because they are not perceived" (na santi pradhānādayo 'nupalabdheh') and spoke of "non-preception being a property of an imagined object (kalpitasyānupalabdhir dharmah)". See Katsura (1992), pp. 230-231; G. Tucci, The Nyāyamukha of Dignāga, Heidelberg, 1930 pp. 16–17; Skt. fragments in Svavrtti (ed. Gnoli) pp. 105 and 107. This idea of an imagined subject was then generalized by Dharmakīrti to form a key part of his apoha theory. In particular, he took the anti-Sāmkhya argument in Dignāga's Nyāyamukha proving the nonexistence of pradhāna as well as the Nyāyamukha's phrase kalpitasyānupalabdhir dharmah to lead to the general principle in PV I, k. 205-212, the Svavrtti and Pramānaviniścaya III that the directly designated objects of words were always conceptual representations (kalpanā); he then maintained that although pradhāna did not exist as something real and external, its conceptual representation, or in other words, the verbal object (śabdārtha) existed, so that the charge of āśrayāsiddha did not apply.

In later developments, including what we find in the dGe lugs pa positions and clearly in Ngag dbang bstan dar, the Dharmakīrtian general principle of designata being only concepts will be combined with the svadharmin vs. kevaladharmin contrast to explain when āśrayāsiddha is avoidable and when it is not. Grosso modo, in nonexistence proofs the svadharmin is the concept and no more; the kevaladharmin is the pseudo-entity. Ngag bdang bstan dar here (following Tsong kha pa and others) applies this point of view to PV IV.141–142's discussion where the Buddhist refutes the Vaisesika's version of space. Thus the Vaisesika's space becomes the kevaladharmin, whereas the conceptual representation of space is the svadharmin, i.e. the subject accepted by the Buddhist himself. Although the kevaladharmin is obviously refuted, the svadharmin is not and hence āśrayāsiddha is avoided. However, this synthesis is arguably a later invention. Tillemans is of the opinion that while for a writer like Kamalaśīla (who figures so prominently in the Tibetan theories) this move to combine the notions of svadharmin and conceptual subjects is present in his Madhyamakāloka, in the case of Dharmakīrti this combination is not very likely. The kārikās in PV IV (viz. k. 141-142) that are often interpreted as supporting this combination are probably better interpreted differently. First of all, Prajñākaragupta's

Pramānavārttikabhāsva (PVBh) ad PV IV. 141–2 clearly specified two interpretations of the kārikās at stake. One advocates proving nonexistence with regard to a subject that is "completely derived from conceptual thought" (vikalpaparinisthite dharmini) and thus that the conceptual subject is the svadharmin. The other paraphrases the controversial reasoning about space in such a way that the svadharmin becomes a real entity acceptable to the Buddhist, namely the impermanent space that Buddhists themselves accept. See PVBh 550.18: tathāpy anityam ākāśam dharmī bhavisyati. Secondly, this latter interpretaion in PVBh fits noticeably better into the rest of the argumentation in PV IV, k. 136-148, where a completely parallel reasoning against the Samkhya sukhādi ("pleasure, etc." = the three gunas) is introduced by tathaiva ("in precisely this way") in k. 144-145. This time the svadharmin is clearly taken by Dharmakīrti as not being the conceptual representation of sukhādi, but as being the ordinary, impermanent sensations of pleasure that the Buddhist himself acknowledges. The impression is that reading an advocacy of the combination of svadharmin with conceptual subjects into Dharmakīrti is a later position that may well change Dharmakīrti's own stance. The svadharmin may well have been no more than an entity acceptable as real (and not conceptual) to the Buddhist himself. And determining what this actual subject was seems to have involved paraphrasing of the explicitly stated arguments, but had little to do with postulating conceptual subjects. Ngag dbang bstan dar is (correctly) simplifying the argument. As it stands in Dharmakīrti, the reasoning at stake seeks to prove that space does not have "a novel nature unproduced by other conditions", in other words, a permanent but real intrinsic nature. Cf. Pramāṇavārttika IV.141-2: yathā parair anutpādyāpūrvarūpam[1] na khādikam / sakrc chabdādyahetutvād ity ukte prāha dūsakah // tadvad vastusvabhāvo 'san dharmī vyomādir ity api / naivam istasya sādhyasya bādhā kācana[2] vidyate // "When [the Buddhist] states that space, etc. do not have a novel nature unproduced by other [conditions] because they are not causes for [producing their qualities such as] sound, etc. all at once, then the [Vaisesika] adversary might say that like that the subject, space, etc., would also not have the nature of a real entity. [Dharmakīrti's position:] In this fashion [even though the subject is invalidated(3)], there is in fact no invalidation of the intended [proposition] to be proved (sādhya) at all." [1] Miy. anutpādyā pūrvarūpan is wrong; [2] Miy. kvacana - cf. Tib. 'ga' yang; [3] PVV evam dharmibādhane 'pi.

The argument presupposes some fundamental positions in the dGe lugs pa understanding of apoha. In brief, the dGe lugs pa explain the conceptual representation of real space (dngos gyur gyi nam mkha' = vastubhūtākāśa) as being "what appears as excluded from the contrary of real space" (dngos gyur gyi nam mkha' ma yin pa las log par snang ba). They then add the additional step that not only does the conceptual appearance/representation (snang ba) itself appear in this way but real space itself (albeit nonexistent) also appears (snang) as excluded from the contrary of real space. The result is that the dGe lugs can argue that the svadharmin, the actual dharmin that is being argued about, i.e. the conceptual representation, appears concordantly (mthun snang) to both parties in the debate. However, the Vaisesika, who believes in vastubhūtākāśa, does not know that it is only a mentally invented concept being argued about rather than vastubhūtākāśa itself. The opponent thus has the impression that he is arguing about actual space, while the Buddhist proponent knows that they are both only arguing about the concept. This is said to be possible because both real space itself and the representation/appearance (snang ba) appear erroneously mixed together ('dres nas) to conceptual thought. An analysis of this type of argumentation is to be found in Tillemans (1995); see Lopez (1987) pp. 178–179 for rGyal tshab's use of the same type of argument; see Klein (1991) pp. 35-36 on lCang skya's and bsTan dar's position that "the actual object appears, mixed with its image, to thought"; see also Yoshimizu (1997) pp. 1107-1108; Dreyfus

(1992) p. 36 *et sq.* Tillemans stresses that the position that X itself appears (*snang ba*) to the conceptual thought about X is by and large a dGe lugs pa-gSang phu ba development, with problematic or no antecedents at all in India. It seems to be equally rejected by Sa skya pas like Śākya mchog ldan; see *op. cit.* p. 872 *et sq.* In part, the position was facilitated by the syntactical ambiguities in the Tibetan term *snang ba*, which can mean "appears", "what appears" and "appearance".

16 See n. 12 for *Pramānasamuccaya* III.2cd.

¹⁷ These verses are not from the *Pratyaksa* (PV III) chapter; they are from the *Parārthānumāna* chapter, i.e. PV IV.136–148. Nor did Dignaga use *rang rten* instead of *rang gi chos can* (= *svadharmin*); see n. 12. Here are some of the principal verses amongst the twelve. Additions generally follow Manorathanandin's *Pramānavārttikavrtti*.

136 sarvatra vādino dharmo yah svasādhyatayepsitah / taddharmavati[1] bādhā syān nānyadharmena dharmini //

"Always, invalidation ($b\bar{a}dh\bar{a}$) [of the thesis] would occur in a case of [invalidation of] the possessor of that property (dharma) that the proponent himself intends to prove ($s\bar{a}dhya$), but not in the case of a subject (dharmin) [that is qualified] by some other property."

143 dvayasyāpi hi sādhyatve sādhyadharmoparodhi yat / bādhanam dharminas tatra bādhety etena varņitam //

"Indeed, given that both are to be proved (*sādhyatva*), then when invalidating the subject negates the property to be proved, in that case there will be an invalidation [of the thesis]. Such is what is expressed by the [words 'his own subject' (*syadharmin*)]."

147 svayam işto yato dharmah sādhyas tasmāt tadāśrayah / bādhyo na kevalo nānyasamśrayo veti sūcitam //

"It was asserted [by Dignāga] that as the property that [the proponent] intends himself is what is to be proved (*sādhya*), therefore, the basis of this [property] is what is to be invalidated, and not something nominal or the basis for a [property] other [than the one being proved]."

[1] Read taddharmavati instead of Miyasaka's tad dharmavati.

Ngag dbang bstan dar refers here to one of the three characteristics ($r\bar{u}pa$) of valid reasons: the *pakṣadharmatva* ("[the reason's] being a quality of the subject"). Cf. the definition of the *pakṣadharma(tva)* in *Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs* p. 23: *de sgrub kyi shes 'dod chos can skyon med kyi steng du 'god tshul dang mthun par yod pa nyid du tshad mas nges pa* "It [i.e. the reason] is ascertained by a *pramāṇa* to exist relative to the faultless subject of enquiry in accordance with the mode of presentation". The 'god tshul "mode of presentation" in Ngag dbang bstan dar (as in *Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs*) refers to the type of verb stated in the reason, i.e. the copula *yin* as in e.g. *byas pa yin pa'i phyir* or *byas pa'i phyir* "because is a product" or the existential *yod* as in *du ba yod pa'i phyir* "because there is smoke" – we thus have the possibility of *yin 'god* or *yod 'god*. The point of including 'god tshul dang mthun par in the definition of the *pakṣadharma(tva)* is a rather cumbersome way to guarantee that the subject possesses the property of the reason in the very same way as the proponent has stated, i.e. *yin* or *yod*.

¹⁹ Ngag dbang bstan dar's reply here and in what follows turns on the principle that the reason must be a property of the subject, i.e. of the *svadharmin*: in other words, the reason must be a *pakṣadharma* (see n. 18). Now, when we prove that space is not a permanent substance, the conceptual representation of space is indeed not a substance, and will also be qualified by the reason. Thus the *pakṣadharmatva*

will hold. On the other hand, if we are validly proving that sound is impermanent because it is produced, then sound itself (and not the concept of sound) must be the *svadharmin*. This is because sound is both impermanent and something causally produced – hence the *pakṣadharmatva* holds with regard to that subject, i.e. sound *qua* particular, rather than the concept of sound. See Lopez (1987) pp. 175–176.

On the Tibetan development of the problem of *chos can mthun snang ba* ("concordantly appearing subjects") see D. Lopez (1987), p. 78 *et passim*; Hopkins (1989); Yotsuya (1995); Tillemans (1990), p. 42f.; Tillemans and Tomabechi (1995) n. 25. The term *chos can mthun snang ba* is a Tibetan invention with no Sanskrit equivalent. The notion is developed by Tsong kha pa in *Lam rim chen mo, Drangs nges legs bshad snying po* and other works as a philosophical elaboration upon a section in the Bhāvaviveka-Candrakīrti debate in *Prasannapadā* I, p. 26 *et sq.* (ed. L. de la Vallée Poussin, Bibliotheca Buddhica, reprint Osnabrück, 1970), where Realist and Śūnyavādin conceptions are argued to be radically incommensurable so that there are no commonly acknowledged (*ubhayaprasiddha*) subjects when the two parties are debating about ultimate truth – see Tillemans (1992) n. 5 for a translation of the passage from *Prasannapadā*. The issue is also taken up by non-dGe lugs pa writers (such as Go rams pa bSod nams seng ge in his *ITa ba'i ngan sel* f. 41af.), but plays a particularly important, and undeniably complex, role in the dGe lugs pa Svatantrika Madhyamaka system.

Ngag bdang bstan dar is presupposing an understanding of Tsong kha pa's position on Svātantrika. The point in the argument is delicate. Judging by the previous discussion, bsTan dar seems to accept that the svadharmin in the Buddhist-Vaisesika arguments, viz. the concept of space, is what both parties are actually arguing about - nonetheless this conceptual svadharmin, as he had said earlier, could not be explicitly acknowledged by the Vaisesika opponent, who thinks he is arguing about real space (vastubhūtākāśa). bsTan dar then argus that space itself is incommensurable for both parties, i.e. given the parties' differing respective views on what space is, a concordantly appearing and commonly acknowledged (ubhayaprasiddha) space cannot be what they are arguing about: space is thus the kevaladharmin and cannot be the svadharmin. (Here one could reasonably ask if the svadharmin, i.e. the concept, appears concordantly to both, given their respective positions.) In what follows, Ngag dbang bstan dar alludes to an objection in Prasannapadā that if the Realist and Sūnvavādin have no commonly recognized subject, then nor do Buddhists and Vaisesikas when they argue about sound being impermanent or not, given that both have different conceptions of what sound is; see Prasannapadā p. 29. The dGe lugs pa reply, based on Candrakīrti, is that sound, irrespective of one's philosophical theories, is heard commonly by both parties, whereas space is just a purely theoretical notion without any perceptual content in common for both parties.

Ngag bstan dar is arguing from a Svātantrika position where concordantly appearing subjects and especially non-erroneous valid cognitions must be possible for both parties, as this is a condition for the logical reasons being "autonomous" (rang rgyud = svatantra). The phrase ma 'khrul ba'i tshad ma'i rnyed don du mthun snang du grub pa ("established as appearing concordantly as an object found by non-erroneous means of valid cognition") alludes to the dGe lugs pa view that for a Svatantrika, who holds a type of limited realism, a pramāna is non-erroneous in apprehending its objects as being established by their own intrinsic natures (rang gi mtshan nyid kyis grub pa). Note that for a Pasangika, by contrast, a pramāna can supposedly never be correct in this way, because these intrinsic natures do not exist at all, and thus for him all pramāṇas without exception would be erroneous. The incommensurability between Realist and Śūnyavādin then lies in the fact that the way the subject is established by a pramāna (tshad mas grub tshul) will differ for the two parties, the realist taking the pramāna as non-erroneous and the Śūnyavadin

holding it to be erroneous. Cf. sTong thun chen mo p. 496 (f.157b3-6): des na mdor bsdus te go bde bar brjod na / rang gi mtshan nyid kyis grub pa'i gzhal bya la ma 'khrul pa'i tshad mas rnyed don yin par snga rgol phyi* rgol gnyi ga'i lugs la mthun snang du grub pa'i chos can gyi steng du / snga rgol gang la dpag 'dod zhugs pa'i bsgrub bya'i chos sgrub byed kyi gtan tshigs su bkod pa / zhes pa rang rgyud kyi rtags kyi don yin la / chos can de nyid tshad mas 'grub tshul snga rgol phyi rgol gnyi ga'i mthun snang du grub pa med kyang spyir chos can de nyid snga rgol gyi lugs la'ang tshad mas grub phyi rgol gyi lugs la'ang tshad mas grub cing chos can dang phyogs chos sogs phyi rgol lugs la tshad mas grub pa'i khas blangs la 'khrid nas bkod pa'i gtan tshigs ni gzhan la grags kyi rjes dpag ces bya'o //. *Text has gyi. "So let us summarize and explain [things] in an easily comprehensible manner (sic!). The meaning of 'autonomous logical reason' (rang rgyrd kyi rtags = svatantrahetu) is: what is presented as a logical reason establishing the sādhyadharma that the proponent wishes to infer on the basis of a dharmin established as appearing concordantly (mthun snang du grub pa) for both the proponent's and the opponent's traditions, namely, [appearing concordantly] as being an entity found by a pramāna that is unmistaken with regard to prameyas established by their own characters (rang gi mtshan nyid = svalaksana). [As for 'opponent-acknowledged' inferences:] Although the way in which this dharmin is established by pramānas does not appear concordantly for both the proponent and opponent, nonetheless in general (spyir) this dharmin is established by a pramāna in the opponent's tradition and is also established by a pramāna in the opponent's tradition; when the logical reason is presented after we have 'guided' ('khrid nas) the dharmin, paksadharma and so forth in terms of positions established by a pramāna in the opponent's tradition, this is said to be an 'opponent-acknowledged inference' (gzhan la grags kyi rjes dpag)."

²² See Lopez (1987); pp. 178–179.

²³ Cf. n. 13 for Dignāga's arguments against the Sāmkhya.

bsTan dar cites Madhyamakāloka somewhat out of context, as if the quote was unproblematically Kamalaśīla's own position. In fact, it is to be found in a very long pūrvapaksa where a logician's position is presented, one which Kamalaśīla replied to by drawing partial parallels with his own philosophical project of proving ultimate lack of intrinsic nature (nihsvabhāvatā). The logician's position, which looks to be a type of Alīkākāravāda ("false images"), held that: (a) the dharmin is said to be a mental entity, but in reality is not mind and has no real existence at all, being only an imagined and unreal mental image (ākāra); (b) the ordinary person erroneously conflates the image with the objects themselves; (c) mind really exists although the images are unreal. (Note that Santaraksita and Kamalasīla are usually represented in texts on philosophical tenets (grub mtha' = siddhānta) as leaning towards Satyākāravāda (rnam bden dang mthun pa); see Mimaki (1982) pp. 29-31, 35.) See Madhyamakāloka D. 174a-175al (P. 190a-191a): ji ste thog ma med pa'i rang gi sa bon yongs su smin pa las yang dag par byung ba'i rnam par rtog pas yongs su bsgrubs pa / byis pa rnams kyis phyi rol dang dngos po nyid du nye bar brtags pa blo la vod pa nvid chos can vin te / de'i phyir de la brten nas gtso bo la sogs pa'gog par byed do // de ni don dam par ngo bo nyid med kyang rnam par 'khrul pa'i dbang gis phyi rol lta bu dang / gtso bo la sogs pa dang / tha mi dad pa lta bu dang / nus pas pas stong pa la sogs pa'i chos mtha' dag dang ldan pa lta bur rtog go // de la gtso bo la sogs pa'i ngo bo nyid dgag pa sgrub pa la gtso bo la sogs pa dgag pa bsgrub par bya ba dang / sgrub pa dag gzhi gcig pa nyid kyang grub pa kho na yin te / 'di ltar de nyid byis pa rnams kyis phyi rol dang / gtso bo la sogs pa nyid du nye bar gzung ba rgol ba dang phyir rgol ba dag kyang rab rib can gyis zla ba gnyis su mthong ba bzhin du de dang tha mi dad par sems pa kho nas tha snyad 'dogs pa'i phyir // de ni blos kun brtags pa yin yang de'i

rnam pa nyid kyis blo zhes nye bar 'dogs te / 'di dngos su ni blo'i ngo bo yang ma yin te / de ni de dang mtshan nyid mi mthun pa'i ngo bo nyid du snang ba'i phyir ro // de'i phyir de ngo bo med pa nyid du rab tu bsgrubs kyang blo ngo bo nyid med pa nyid du thal ba ni ma yin te / de la phyi rol dang gtso bo la sogs pa'i ngo nyid dgag pa tshad mas sgrub par byed kyi / de nyid dgag pa'i phyir gtan tshigs sbyor ba ma yin no / . . . de'i phyir rjes su dpag par bya ba dang / rjes su dpag pa la sogs pa'i tha snyad 'di thams cad ni blo la yod pa'i chos can kho na brten nas 'jug pa nyid de / rnam pa gzhan mi srid pa'i phyir ro zhes bya bar 'dod na /

gal te de lta yin na / 'o na don dam par ngo bo nyid med kyang kun brtags pa'i chos can la brten nas dgag pa la sogs pa rab tu sgrub par byed pa la yang gzhi ma grub pa nyid la sogs pa'i nyes pa mi 'jug na ci ste nan gyis kho bo cag la klan ka tshol byar byed / ji ltar khyed don dam pa la 'jug par bya ba'i phyir gtso bo la sogs pa dgag par kun brtags pa'i chos can kho na la bsgrub par bya ba dang / sgrub pa'i sems pa rgyas par byed pa de bzhin du kho cag kyang gzugs dang sgra la sogs pa grags pa dag la / yod pa dang med pa la sogs pa'i ngo bo nyid du sgro btags pa dgag par byis pa rnams la de dag sgyu ma dang / smig rgyu dang / rmi lam dang / gzugs brnyan dang mtshungs pa nyid du ston par byed do // de la ji ltar brtags pa'i chos can la dngos po'i ngo bo nyid du sgro btags pa la sogs pa bkag tu zin kyang rgol ba dang phyir rgol ba dag la snang ba'i phyir ma grub pa nyid la sogs pa'i nyes pa mi 'jug pa de bzhin du gzugs la sogs pa yang gnag rdzi'i chung ma yan chad kyi skye bo la snang ba'i phyir ji ltar ma grub pa nyid du 'gyur //.

"[Objection:] - It is just something existing in the mind that is the subject, [something] established by conceptualisations stemming from the ripening of their own beginningless [karmic] tendencies [and] which is metaphorically designated by the infantile as being external and real. Thus it is with reference to that [fictional mental existent] that one negates pradhāna and so forth. Although that [mental existent] does not ultimately have any nature, still, due to error, it is conceived of as if it were external, as if it were not different from pradhāna and the like, and as if it had all the various properties like being void of efficacity and so forth. In that case, when we negate the natures of pradhāna and so forth, the sādhya consisting of negations of pradhāna, etc. and the sādhana [for these negations] not only have the same locus but are in fact established. This is because the infantile grasp this [mental existent] alone as being external and as being pradhāna, etc. and the proponent and opponent both apply conventional designations simply because they think that this [mental existent] is not different from [the pseudo-entities themselves], just as when a person suffering from [the eye-disease] timira sees the moon as two. Although this [mental existent] is something [merely] imagined by the mind, it is metaphorically designated as the mind due to its being an image. In reality, however, it is not of the nature of the mind, in that it appears as something different in character from the [mind]. Hence even though it is acknowledged that this [mental existent] is without any nature, it does not follow that the mind is without nature. In that case, the negations of natures such as the external and pradhāna, etc. are proven by means of a pramāna. But one does not apply the logical reasons in order to negate the [mind] itself. ... Consequently, all these conventions, like inferable objects (anumeya), inferring [reasons] (anumāna) and so forth, operate only in reliance upon subjects existing in the mind. Any other way is impossible.

[Reply:] Suppose this were so. Now, even when one proved negations and so forth in reliance upon imagined subjects, though they be ultimately without any nature, no fault like āśrayāsiddha, etc. would be committed. So then why direct your criticisms so vociferously against us! Just as you develop ideas of sādhya and sādhana in reliance upon imagined subjects in order to negate pradhāna etc. so that you may have access to the ultimate, in the same fashion we too, in order to negate superimpositions of natures like existence and nonexistence, etc. upon commonly recognized things

like form and sound, demonstrate to the infantile that these [commonly recognized things like form, etc.] are like illusions, mirages, dreams and reflections. In that case, just as [for you], even though [you] do negate the superimposed nature of being a real entity with reference to imagined subjects [like *pradhāna*, etc.], there are no faults like [āśraya-Jasiddha[hetu]] because these [subjects] appear to both the proponent and the opponent, so too, since form and so forth also appear to everyone from cowherds' wives on up, how is it that they would be unestablished (asiddha)?"

25 See n. 24.

bsTan dar has truncated the passage from the *Svavrtti*. The additions to our translation follow the missing portions of the Skt. and Tib. of the *Svavrtti*. Note that it is clear from the Skt. that Ngag dbang bstan dar is wrong in reading *spyi gtso bo'i sgra*, and that the reading *ci* (= *kim*) *gtso bo'i sgra* in the *bsTan 'gyur* is the correct one. Ngag dbang bstan dar seems to be have been seduced by the homonymity of *spyi* and *ci*, plus the fact that *pradhāna* is usually rendered as *spyi gtso bo* by indigenous Tibetan authors of the dGe lugs school. Our translation of the quotation follows the *Svavrtti's* Sanskrit and the Tibetan in the *bsTan 'gyur*, which must yield a different understanding from that of Ngag dbang bstan dar himself. Unfortunately, it is difficult to guess how the latter would have understood the passage. But a natural reading of bsTan dar's version of the *Svavrtti* passage would be something like: "Thus, in dependence upon this subject, this object that appears due to the word *pradhāna*..."

²⁷ "Verbal object" (*sgra don; śabdārtha*) is, for a logician, always a conceptually created entity, one having no real existence. Cf. *Pramāṇavārttika* III.287ab: *śabdārthagrāhi yad yatra taj jñāṇam tatra kalpanā* // "Wherever a consciousness apprehends a verbal object, it is conceptual".

On gzhi ldog and the argument at issue, see n. 30.

²⁹ See n. 30.

The term *ldog pa* (= vyāvrtti) is a pivotal term in the Indian and Tibetan apoha theories of meaning; see Tillemans (1993) pp. 69-70, n. 6 for explanations and references to Pramānavārttika I. The fundamental idea is that the object directly designated by a word for X is a conceptual construction proceeding by exclusion of all which is non-X. As for rang ldog and gzhi ldog, these are terms whose Indian origins, if indeed they have any, seem quite obscure. The terms figure preeminently in the bsDus grwa literature (and hence in dGe lugs pa pramāna commentaries) as part of a scholastic category of different sub-types of the Indian logician's notion of vyāvrtti, including also don ldog ("exclusion qua object") and spyi ldog ("exclusion qua universal"). Given their place in a literature heavily influenced by the Tshad ma bsdus pa texts of gSang phu traditions, it is not unlikely that the interpretation of these four sub-varieties of vyāvṛtti, and possibly even their origin, is due to the gSang phu traditions stemming from Phya pa Chos kyi seng ge. See e.g. the third chapter of Yongs 'dzin bsdus grwa chung, the chapter concerning ldog pa ngos 'dzin "recognizing exclusions" (in Textbooks of Se-ra Monastery for the Primary Course of Studies ed. T. Kelzang and S. Onoda, Kyoto, 1985). The argumentation in Ngag dbang bstan dar turns essentially on the distinction between knowing an object X as being simply an X itself (rang), and knowing an instance, or basis (gzhi), of X but under some other name or description - the first case is that of rang ldog and the second gzhi ldog. Thus, for example, the rang ldog pertaining to a vase (bum pa'i rang ldog), is just the vase and not, e.g., some particular bulbous golden object that is able to carry water - the latter would be a gzhi ldog of vase. In the context at hand, a Buddhist and a Sāmkhya, when arguing about Primordial Matter, are both arguing about a mere concept of Primordial Matter, i.e. a verbal object (sgra don). Nonetheless they cannot be arguing about the rang ldog of the verbal object (sgra don gyi rang ldog) of Primordial Matter because this would mean that both know

the verbal object to be just a verbal object, i.e. a conceptually and verbally created fiction; clearly, the Sāṃkhya does not know this, but thinks that Primordial Matter is more than just a verbal object, because it is for him fully real. Thus they are both thinking and arguing about a type of verbal object, but one that both parties don't consciously recognize as such – hence the insistence on the subject of their deliberations being the *gzhi ldog* of a verbal object. See also n. 15 on the dGe lugs pa idea of an object (like Primordial Matter, etc.) and its conceptual representation appearing "mixed" ('*dres nas snang ba*) and hence indistinguishable to the opponent. I Literally, "from their exclusions *qua* the things themselves". On *rang ldog*, see n. 30 On the argument at sake, see n. 32.

The point is that if we *explicitly* presented the subject as being something along the lines of the concept of Primordial Matter, and not Primordial Matter itself, we would not actually succeed in refuting Primordial Matter. The argument would not tell against the Samkhya opponent, who is convinced that there really is such an entity and that it is *a fortiori* not a mere concept. On the other hand, when we establish by means of a *pramāṇa* that the reason is a property of the subject (*pakṣadharma*), then the subject can only be the conceptual construct, i.e. only the appearance as Primordial Matter (*gtso bor snang ba nyid*). The argument at stake is, in fact, that both the *kevaladharmin* and *svadharmin* have their purpose: the former assures that the refutation presents the subject as the opponent conceives it, while the latter is the proponent's actual subject that will serve as the basis upon which will be assessed the three characteristics of the logical reason. Finally, note that we cannot say with any certainty which exact passages from the *Madhyamakāloka* rGyal tshab rje had in mind.

33 Literally: "the reason of the reason of the proposed to the subject that the reson of the proposed to the subject that the reson of the proposed to the subject that the reson of the proposed to the subject that the reson of the proposed to
Literally: "the reason ... (... rgyu mtshan yang) ... is also due to the reason (rgyu mtshan gyis yin)".

34 Pramānavārttika IV.228bcd. The whole kārikā reads: tasmād āśritya śabdārtham bhāvābhāvasamāśrayam / abāhyāśrayam atrestam sarvam vidhinisedhanam // (de phyir dngos dngos med rten can // phyi rol rten min sgra don la // brten nas 'dir ni sgrub pa dang // dgag pa thams cad 'dod pa yin //) "Therefore, we accept that all [positive] proof and negation here [in practical activity (vyavahāre)] is in reliance upon a verbal object, which is the basis for being and non-being [and] which has no external basis." For the interpretation of the compounds 'samāśrayam and abāhyāśrayam, see Pramānavārttikavṛtti: tasmāc chabdasyārtham aropitabahīrūpam anyavyavacchedam abāhyāśrayam bāhyavisayarahitam ya eva bhāvābhāvayor vidhipratisedhavikalpapratipādyayor samāśrayas tam āśritya vyavahāre sarvam vidhinisedhanam istam/.

The kārikā is closely related to the well-known fragment attributed to Dignāga's Hetumukha and cited in Pramāṇavārttikasvavrtti (ed. Gnoli pp. 2–3): sarva evāyam anumānānumeyavyavahāro buddhyārūdhena dharmadharmibhedena. Note that the Tibetan of k. 183c reads shes pa la grub "established in/for thought", whereas the Pramāṇavārttikavrtti (PVV) reads pratyayena vikalpakenaikavyāvrttimātraviṣayena samsiddham ... "established by means of conceptual thought, which has as object only an exclusion of unity." Finally, note that Manorathanandin in PVV takes artha as going only with anumeya, i.e. anumeyārtha which is also in keeping with PV Tib. Cf. PVV ad k. 183: ato 'numānahetutvād anumānasya lingasyānumeyārthasyānayor upalakṣanatvāt (/) dharminas ca vyavahārasthitis tv iyam

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ABBREVIATIONS

A lag sha Ngag dbang bstan dar. gCig du bral gyi rnam bzhag = gCig du bral gyi rnam bzhag legs bshad rgya mtsho las btus pa'i 'khrul spong bdud rtsi'i gzegs ma. In Vol. I of the Collected gSung 'bum of bsTan-dar lha-ram of A-lag-sha. Published by Lama Guru Deva, New Delhi, 1971.

bTsun pa ston gzhon. *rNam 'grel gyi rnam bshad gangs can gyi rgyan*. Qinghai: Zhonguo zangxue chubanshe, 1993.

D. = sDe dge edition of the Tibetan Tripitaka.

Devendrabuddhi. Pramānavārttikapañjikā. P. 5717. D. 4217.

dGe 'dun grub pa. Tshad ma rigs rgyan = Tshad ma'i bstan bcos chen po rigs pa'i rgyan. Collected Works of the First Dalai Lama dGe 'dun grub pa, Gangtok, 1978–1981, Vol. 4 (nga).

Dharmakīrti. *Nyāyabindu: with Dharmottara's Nyāyabinduṭ*īkā and Durveka Miśra's Dharmottarapradīpa. Ed. by D. Malvania, Patna: Kashi Prasad Jayaswal Research Institute, 1955, second edition 1971.

Dharmakīrti. *Pramāṇavārttika*. Ed. by Y. Miyasaka. *Pramāṇavārttika-kārikā* (*Sanskrit and Tibetan*). Naritasan Shinshoji: Acta Indologica 2 1972, pp. 1–206. (PV I = *Svārthānumāna*; PV II = *Pramāṇasiddhi*; PV III = *Pratyakṣa*; PV IV = *Parārthānumāṇa*.)

Dharmakīrti. *Pramāṇavārttikasvavrtti*. Ed. R. Gnoli. *The Pramāṇavārttikam of Dharmakīrti*. Serie Orientale Roma 23, Rome, 1960.

Dharmottara. Nyāyabindutīkā. See Dharmakīrti's Nyāyabindu.

Dignāga. *Pramānasamuccayavrtti*. P. 5701, D. 4204 (i.e. PSVa) transl. Vasudhararaksita and Seng rgyal; P. 5702 (i.e. PSVb) transl. Kanakavarman and Dad pa shes rab.

Dignāga. Pramānasamuccaya. P. 5700, D. 4203

Durveka Miśra. Dharmottarapradīpa. See Dharmakīrti's Nyāyabindu.

Go ram pa bSod nams seng ge. *lTa ba ngan sel* = *dBu ma la 'jug pa'i dkyus kyi sa bcad pa dang gzhung so so'i dka' ba'i gnas la dpyad pa lta ba ngan sel*. In Sa *skya pa'i bka' 'bum*, vol. 13, Tokyo, 1969.

gSer mdog Pan chen Śākya mchog ldan. *Tshad ma rigs gter dgongs rgyan smad cha = Tshad ma rigs gter gyi dgongs rgyan rigs pa'i 'khor los lugs ngan pham byed*. Volume 10 of *Collected Writings of gSer-mdog Pan-chen Śākya-mchog-ldan*. Reprinted by Nagwang Topgyal, Delhi, 1988.

 $k_{\cdot} = k\bar{a}rik\bar{a}$.

Kamalaśīla. Madhyamakāloka. P. 5287, D. 3887.

Manorathanandin. *Pramāṇavārttikavrtti*. Ed. by R. Sānkrtyāyana with the notes of Vibbūticandra in the appendices to the *Journal of the Bihar and*

Orissa Research Society 24 (1938) part III. Also ed. by D. Shāstrī, Varanasi: Bauddha Bharati 3, 1968.

Miy. = Y. Miyasaka's edition of *Pramāṇavārttika*. See Dharmakīrti, *Pramāṇavārttika*.

mKhas grub rje = mKhas grub dGe legs dpal bzang po. *rNam 'grel tīk chen* = *rGyas pa'i bstan bcos tshad ma rnam 'grel gyi rgya cher bshad pa rigs pa'i rgya mtsho. Collected Works*, dGa' ldan phun tshogs gling edition, Vol. *tha*, *da*.

mKhas grub rje. sTong thun chen mo = Zab mo stong pa nyid kyi de kho na nyid rab tu gsal bar byed pa'i bstan bcos skal bzang mig 'byed. Collected Works, Vol. ka.

mKhas grub rje. Tshad ma yid kyi mun sel = Tshad ma sde bdun gyi rgyan yid kyi mun sel. Collected Works, Vol. tha.

P. = Peking edition of the Tibetan Tripitaka.

Prajñākaragupta. *Pramānavārttikabhāsya*. Ed. R. Sānkṛtyāyana, Patna: Tibetan Sanskrit Works 1, 1953.

rGyal tshab rje = rGyal tshab Dar ma rin chen. rNam 'grel thar lam gsal byed = Tshad ma rnam 'grel gyi tshig le'ur byas pa'i rnam bshad phyin ci ma log par gsal bar byed pa. Collected Works, Lhasa edition, Vol. cha.

rGyal tshab rje. rNam nges dar $t\bar{t}k = bsTan$ bcos tshad ma rnam nges kyi $t\bar{t}k$ chen dgongs pa rab gsal. Collected Works, Vol. ja and nya.

rGyal tshab rje; dBu ma rgyan gyi brjed byang. Popular edition, Sarnath, 1976.

Śākyabuddhi. Pramānavārttikatīkā. P. 5718, D. 4220.

Śāntaraksita. Madhyamakālamkāra. See Ichigō (1985).

Tsong kha pa = Tsong kha pa Blo bzang grags pa. dBu ma dgongs pa rab gsal = bsTan bcos chen po dbu ma la 'jug pa'i rnam bshad dgongs pa rab gsal. In Vol. ma of Collected Works, reproduced from prints from the 1897 Lhasa old Zhol (dGa' ldan phun tshogs gling) blocks, New Delhi 1979.

Tsong kha pa. dBu ma rgyan gyi zin bris. In Collected Works, Vol. ba; popular edition, Sarnath 1976.

Yongs 'dzin Phur bu lcog Byams pa tshul khrims rgya mtsho. *Yongs 'dzin rtags rigs = Tshad ma'i gzhung don 'byed pa'i bsdus grwa'i rnam par bshad pa rigs lam 'phrul gyi lde'u mig las rigs lam che ba rtags rigs kyi skor.* References are to the edition by S. Onoda, *The Yons 'dzin rtags rigs - A manual for Tibetan logic.* Nagoya: Studia Asiatica 5, 1981.

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