

On -c and ki particles in Georgian

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This paper presents the analysis of **ki** and **-c** particles. We've chosen these particles (**-c** and **ki**) because they are widely used and very often occur together (**-c ki**). Also, they are constituents of some other particles (**kidec**). It was interesting to find what semantic features they have-the same or different. Both of them are often used to express the emphasis of a phrase or a word they are attached to. We tried to characterize **-c** and **ki** and their variations separately and together.

1. The main meaning of **ki** in Georgian is to show confirmation, **ki** in Georgian means 'yes'. **ki** shows that the speaker agrees to what is just mentioned, confirms what has been said before.

e.g. vašli ginda? ki minda
 an apple want[you] yes want[I]

Do you want an apple? Yes, I do

A subgroup of the confirmation meaning of **ki** could also be distinguished when it is emphatic while the main meaning is neutral.

e.g. me ki minda magram...
 I yes want[I] but...

I do want, but...

2. Very important meaning of **ki** is to show a contrast between the parts of statement. **ki** introduces a contrasting meaning that is concerned not only with the whole phrase. **ki** occurs at the end of a phrase, it marks the last item of the homogenous members in coordination.

e.g. me šensken šen ki ešmakebisen
 I on your side you as for on the devil's side

I am on your side, as for you, you are on devil's side.

We have also distinguished four meanings of **-c** particle. Contrary to **ki** the particle **-c** doesn't occur separately. It's a bound form and is always used with another form.

1. **-c** derives question words into relative words.

e.g. vin || vinc ra || rac
 who || who/that what || which/that

2. Additive meaning of **-c** is close to the meaning of ‘also’ or ‘too’ in English.

e.g. mec minda misi naxva
 I too want[I] him to see

I want to see him too
I too want to see him

3. The emphatic meaning of **-c** underlines the word it attends. In case of coordinated homogenous members in the sentence **-c** makes the statement emphatic being added to each homogenous member separately (except the predicate, in which case the particle ‘**kidec**’ is used).

e.g. zooparkši mgelic vnaxe da iremic
 in the zoo a wolf too saw[I] and a deer too

I saw a wolf and a deer too at the zoo

kidec cekvavs kidec myeris
also dances[he] also sings[he]

He does dance and does sing too.

4. Expresses an unwilling agreement to someone’s demands under some circumstances. The noun that is attended by **-c** is persuaded to give in as a result of some strong influence.

e.g. qurebi gamoučeda rčevebvit da isic datanxmda
 ears [she]filled[him]up with advices and he too agreed

She was so persistent in her advices that he had to agree.

We have tried to analyze some examples to see the meanings of these particles in affirmative, interrogative and negative sentences. Distribution of the particle is also important because sometimes the meaning of a sentence or a phrase depends on it.

-c
e.g. agrilda da cvimac camovida
 it got cooler and rain too started[it]

It got cooler and the rain started too.

In this sentence **-c** is added to a noun and has additive meaning. The second part of the sentence ‘cvimac camovida’ implicitly means that something except the rain has happened

earlier, probably something that caused the rain. The particle –c points to the existence of the conjunction ‘and’ and so it means one or more than one members of the sentence before the conjunction ‘and’ that are explicit or are implied. That meaning of –c isn’t emphatic.

e.g. zyvazec cavalt?
 to the sea too go[we]?

Shall we go to the sea too?

In the sentence –c shows that we have already been or we shall go too the some other places too besides the sea. –c has additive meaning.

In affirmative and interrogative sentences –c particle is rendered into English by ‘too’. In contrary to –c particle which is a bound form and is always within a word, ‘too’ in English mostly occurs at the end of a sentence.

e.g. georgic ar mosula (I)
 George too not came[he]

arc giorgi mosula (II)
 not too George came[he]

Neither George has come.

Negative sentences are very interesting. We have to possibilities. –c adds to a word it is related semantically to and another, -c is added to the negative particle ‘ar’ . As we have already mentioned –c occurs only with nouns and not with the verbs. But in negative statements when –c is added to the negative particle ‘ar’ it is placed immediately before the verb, and the verb is negated. In that case the order of words, the placing of ‘arc’ plays the main part.

e.g. georgi arc mosula...
 George neither came[he]...

George neither has come...

As for English in that case we don’t use the particle ‘too’. In translations neither...nor is used instead.

ki
 e.g. bavšvi ki midioda da myeroda
 a child as for was walking[he] and singing[he]

As for child he was walking and singing

The particle **ki** makes contrast between the parts of the sentence. In this example **ki** shows that something was happening or happened after which the child's walking and singing was unexpected and unnatural. At the same time **ki** can underline that in spite of hardship or improper situation the child was still walking and singing.

e.g. mas ki unda?
 He as for wants[he][it]?

As for him, does he want it?

This sentence is ambiguous. He doesn't want a thing that someone wants. Here we have **ki** particle in its contrastive meaning. In the second version someone doesn't want and probably 'he' doesn't want something too. Using **ki** in an interrogative sentence, speaker shows his emotional attitude-anger, irony, doubt, etc.

e.g. bavšvi ki ara mxecia
 a child yes not a beast is [he]

Not a child but a beast is he!

ki confirms bavšvi (a child) which is then negated, and it is emphatic. As the sentence is negative the confirmative meaning of **ki** is annihilated by the negative particle 'ar'. Here **ki** underlines that the child is really a beast.

kidec

e.g. kidec cekvavs kidec myeris
 also dances[he] also sings[he]

He does dance and does sing too.

kidec is emphatic and has additive meaning. Speaker underlines that somebody is able to dance and sing too. **kidec** here is equal in its meaning to **-c**.

e.g. icinis kidec?
 laughs[he] also?

And he dares to laugh?

The sentence is emphatic. The speaker is indignant because someone who has probably done something wrong (in speaker's opinion) behaves not properly. The interrogative form of the sentence makes the emphasis very strong.

e.g. kidec ar migabrꝯanos akedan!
 also not [he]throw [you]away from here

He can even easily throw you away

This sentence is emphatic, too. The particle **kidec** and **ar** together are stronger than any of them separately. And also the verb ‘migabryanos’ is emphatic itself because it’s honorific form ironically used in this context. The speaker warns or threatens the listener, and tells him that he the listener isn’t able to evaluate the situation properly.

ki

e.g. ki myeris magram ver cekvavs
yes sings[she] but can not dances[she]

Yes, she can sing for sure but she can’t dance.

In this sentence **ki** has confirmative meaning, it isn’t emphatic. **ki** confirms that someone is really able to sing.

e.g. šesylebs ki?
could[he]do[it] for sure?

Could he do it for sure?

Here **ki** is emphatic. The speaker expresses his doubt about someone’s abilities. In this case **ki** is rendered into English by ‘for sure’.

e.g. ki ar myeris čxavis
yes not sings[she] croaks[she]

As for her she doesn’t sing she does croak.

ki has confirmative meaning. The sentence is emphatic and the reason is caused not only by particle **ki**, but also by the negation and the semantic character of the verb ‘čxavis’ which is used when we want to say that someone has very unpleasant voice. In English highlighting is made by auxiliary verbs.

e.g. myeris ki ara is
sings[she] yes no that/what

What she does isn’t singing!

ki is confirmative and emphatic too. **ki** underlines ‘ara’ (negation). The speaker mentions ironically that he/she isn’t able to sing or he doesn’t believe that he/she is singing at the moment of communication.

-c ki

e.g. moulodnelad gacvimda setqva-c ki camovida
suddenly it rained hail even fell

Suddenly it started raining, even hail fell.

-c ki expresses extremity; it means that something is much more than it should have been. The rain wasn't expected, but the hail was already too much. In this example **-c ki** is emphatic and also has additive meaning. In this construction (**-c ki**) **-c** is dominant.

e.g. cxovelebisa-c ki esmis?
Animals even understands[he]

-c ki has additive meaning. The speaker is astonished that subject of speaking has many strange abilities he is even able to understand animals.

e.g. saxli ar moscons samsaxurita-c ki ar aris kmaqofili
a house not likes[she] a job even not is satisfied

She doesn't like her house, even with her job she isn't satisfied.

-c ki has additive meaning and it makes the sentence emphatic. The speaker couldn't imagine why she (the subject of speaking) shouldn't like her job which in speaker's opinion is so good. The speaker thinks that she is very capricious.

e.g. es bavšvma-c ki icis
that a child even knows[he]

Even a child knows that.

This sentence is ambiguous. In the first meaning the particle is emphatic and has contrastive meaning, **ki** is dominant. The speaker underlines that the thing he doesn't know is something very simple. The speaker is surprised or ironic. In the second case someone knows the mentioned fact too but the speaker wants to say that it isn't the reason for boasting because the thing is very simple. He, as an adult causes irony in listeners.

To summarize we can say that the particles **-c** and **kidec** are in contrastive distribution, **-c** occurs only with nouns except the case when it is added to the word of negation 'ar-c'. In that case it can also be used with the verbs, too. In affirmative and interrogative sentences with verbs **kidec** particle is used instead. **kidec** is also used in negative statements with the verbs. Particle **ki** is freer in distribution. It occurs with nouns and also with verbs. It is not used as a variation of **-c** though both of them are used to emphasize phrase or a sentence. They never substitute each other.

The particles **-c ki** used together have the features of both **-c** and **ki**. Their simultaneous occurrence is much stronger and emphatic than of one or the other separately. The distribution of **-c ki** is the same distribution as **-c**. In spite of having the meanings of **ki**, **-c ki** never occur with verbs.