

## **Tone and articulatory timing: evidence from Tibetan**

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The temporal lag between gestures of a consonant in syllable onset position and a vowel in syllable nucleus position, i.e., C-V lag, has been shown to be longer in languages with lexical tone than in other languages, a result which has been interpreted as evidence for competitive coupling in syllables with lexical tone. Tibetan, as spoken in diaspora, presents an interesting test of how tone conditions C-V lag, since some members of the speech community produce a tone contrast and others do not. Data is presented from an experiment using electromagnetic articulography (EMA) to measure the C-V lag in Tibetan for speakers with and without lexical tone. Results show that speakers produce C-V lag of a magnitude similar to other tone languages; however, this lag is consistent across speakers who do and do not produce the tone contrast. C-V lag also remains stable across consonants that differ in aspiration but increases with variation in consonant duration. These results offer a puzzle for the Coupled Oscillator Model of Syllable Structure, and highlight the importance of typologically-diverse data in articulatory study.