

# (Non-)concatenative Morphology

Jochen Trommer

[jtrommer@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:jtrommer@uni-leipzig.de)

University of Leipzig  
Department of Linguistics

Concatenative Approaches to  
Nonconcatenative Morphology  
EGG 2008

# An Ideal World

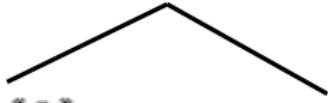
Morphology consists of

Concatenation

+

Alternation

# Concatenation

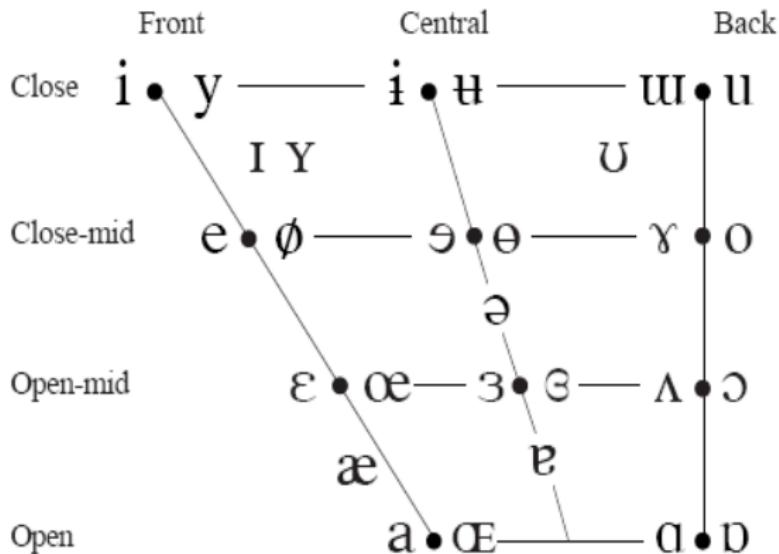
<p>antal: </p>	<p>3olt: </p>
<p>antalna:l:close to </p>  <p>antal:  na:l:close to </p>	<p>3oltna:l:close to </p>  <p>3olt:  na:l:close to </p>
<p>antalhoz:to </p>  <p>antal:  hoz:to </p>	<p>3olthoz:to </p>  <p>3olt:  hoz:to </p>

# Alternation

antal- <b>na:</b> I	'to Antal'	pe:ter- <b>ne:</b> I	'to Péter'
zolt- <b>na:</b> I	'to Zsolt'	imi- <b>ne:</b> I	'to Imi'
borba:la- <b>na:</b> I	'to Borbála'	erʒi- <b>ne:</b> I	'to Erzsi'
<hr/>			
antal- <b>hoz</b>	'to Antal'	pe:ter- <b>hez</b>	'to Péter'
zolt- <b>hoz</b>	'to Zsolt'	imi- <b>hez</b>	'to Imi'
borba:la- <b>hoz</b>	'to Borbála'	erʒi- <b>hez</b>	'to Erzsi'

# Articulation of Vowels

## VOWELS



# Alternation

antal- <b>na:I</b>	'to Antal'	pe:ter- <b>ne:I</b>	'to Péter'
zsolt- <b>na:I</b>	'to Zsolt'	imi- <b>ne:I</b>	'to Imi'
borba:la- <b>na:I</b>	'to Borbála'	erži- <b>ne:I</b>	'to Erzsi'
antal- <b>hoz</b>	'to Antal'	pe:ter- <b>hez</b>	'to Péter'
zsolt- <b>hoz</b>	'to Zsolt'	imi- <b>hez</b>	'to Imi'
borba:la- <b>hoz</b>	'to Borbála'	erži- <b>hez</b>	'to Erzsi'

Back vowels get front vowels after front vowels

# Concatenation + Alternation

	antal na:l	imi na:l
<b>Concatenation</b>	antalna:l	imina:l
<b>Alternation</b>	antalna:l	imine:l

# German Noun Inflection

Rat [Ra:t] ‘advice’

Rat+es [Ra:t+əs] ‘advice (gen.)’

Stück [ʃtyk] ‘piece’

Stück+es [ʃtyk+əs] ‘piece’ (gen.)

Rad [Ra:t] ‘wheel’

Rades [Ra:d+əs] ‘wheel’ (gen.)

Tag [ta:k] ‘day’

Tages [ta:g+əs] ‘day’ (gen.)

Voiced stops get voiceless at the end of a word

# German Noun Inflection: Concatenation + Alternation

## Affixation

	Ra: <b>d</b> əs	Ra: <b>t</b> əs
<b>Concatenation</b>	Ra: <b>d</b> əs	Ra: <b>t</b> əs
<b>Alternation</b>	—	—

## No Affixation

	Ra: <b>d</b>	Ra: <b>t</b>
<b>Alternation</b>	Ra: <b>t</b>	Ra: <b>t</b>

# An Ideal World

Morphology consists of

Concatenation

+

Alternation

# An Ideal World

Morphology consists of

Syntax

+

Phonology

# Phonological Suppletion: Zuni

**Monosyllabic Stems:** → -?le?

**Polysyllabic Stems:** → -nne

ti-?le? “sinew”

sí-?le? “piece of meat”

hóma-nne “juniper leaf”

téna-nne “song”

# Infixation: Ulwa

'N'

'his/her N'

su:lu	su:- <b>ka</b> -lu	'dog'
asna	as- <b>ka</b> -na	'clothes'
kululuk	kulu- <b>ka</b> -luk	'woodpecker'
ana:la:ka	ana:- <b>ka</b> -la:ka	'chin'
karasmak	karas- <b>ka</b> -mak	'knee'

# Infixation: Ulwa

su:lu	'dog'
su: <b>-ki</b> -lu	'my dog'
su: <b>-ma</b> -lu	'thy dog'
su: <b>-ka</b> -lu	'his/her dog'
su: <b>-ni</b> -lu	'our (incl.) dog'
su: <b>-kina</b> -lu	'our (excl.) dog'
su: <b>-mana</b> -lu	'your dog'
su: <b>-kana</b> -lu	'their dog'

# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology

	'write'		'wug'	
	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive
X	katab	kutib	lagat	ligit
cause to X	kattab	kuttib	laggat	luggit
X each other	kaatab	kuutib	laagat	luugit

# Reduplication: Warlpiri

singular	plural	
kurdu	<b>kurdu-kurdu</b>	'child'
kamina	<b>kamina-kamina</b>	'girl'
mardukuja	<b>mardukuja-mardukuja</b>	'woman'

# Truncating Reduplication: Tohono O'odham

?um      **?u**-um      'a thigh'

hon      **ho**-hon      'the body'

bawi      **ba**-bawi      'the tepary bean (dist.)'

podoni      **po**-podoni      'to thump'

# Truncation: Spanish Hypocoristic Formation

Isabél	→	Í.sa
Federíco	→	Fé.de
Gertrúdis	→	Gér.tru

(Roca & Feliu, 2003:188)

# Consonant Mutation in Fula (Paradis, 1992)

	'healthy'	'alive'	'stunted'	'small'	'white'
Class 2	jam <b>be</b>	jeetu <b>be</b>	wuddu <b>be</b>	famar <b>be</b>	ranne <b>be</b>
Class 1	jamo	geeto	guddo	pamaro	dannejo
Class 6	njam <b>on</b>	ng <b>eeton</b>	ng <b>uddon</b>	mbamar <b>on</b>	ndanneh <b>on</b>

# The Research Program

Reduce all problematic patterns to concatenation + alternation

# Theories Introduced in this Course

- ▶ Autosegmental Morphology
- ▶ Prosodic Morphology
- ▶ Optimality Theory

# Phenomena Discussed in this Course

Everything discussed above

except mutation

(last week's course)