

# Autosegmental Phonology: Root-and-Pattern Morphology

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Concatenative Approaches to  
Nonconcatenative Morphology  
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# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology

'write':

	<b>Perfective Active</b>	<b>Perfective Passive</b>
<b>X</b>	katab	kutib
<b>cause to X</b>	kattab	kuttib
<b>X each other</b>	kaatab	kuutib

'wug':

	<b>Perfective Active</b>	<b>Perfective Passive</b>
<b>X</b>	lagat	lugit
<b>cause to X</b>	laggat	luggit
<b>X each other</b>	laagat	luugit

# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology (Roots)

'write':

	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive
<b>X</b>	<b>katab</b>	<b>kutib</b>
<b>cause to X</b>	<b>kattab</b>	<b>kuttib</b>
<b>X each other</b>	<b>kaatab</b>	<b>kuutib</b>

⇒ write  $\approx$  k ... t ... b

'wug':

	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive
<b>X</b>	<b>lagat</b>	<b>lugit</b>
<b>cause to X</b>	<b>laggat</b>	<b>luggit</b>
<b>X each other</b>	<b>laagat</b>	<b>luugit</b>

⇒ wug  $\approx$  l ... g ... t

# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology (Aspect/Voice)

	'write'		'wug'	
	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive
<b>X</b>	katab	kutib	lagat	lugit
<b>cause to X</b>	kattab	kuttib	laggat	luggit
<b>X each other</b>	kaatab	kuutib	laagat	luugit

- ▶ **Perfective Active**  $\approx$  a ... a
- ▶ **Perfective passive**  $\approx$  u ... i

# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology (Binyanim)

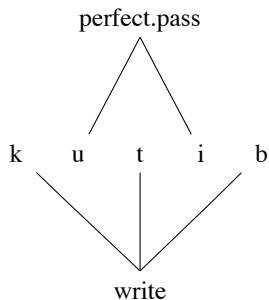
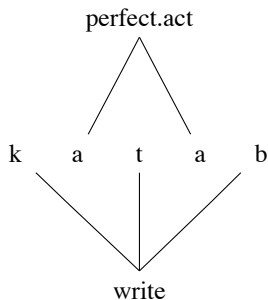
	'write'		'wug'	
	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive	Perfective Active	Perfective Passive
<b>X</b>	katab	kutib	lagat	lugit
<b>cause to X</b>	kattab	kuttib	laggat	luggit
<b>X each other</b>	kaatab	kuutib	laagat	luugit

- ▶ **X**  $\approx$  C V C V C
- ▶ **cause to X**  $\approx$  CVCCVC
- ▶ **X each other**  $\approx$  CVVCVC

# Arabic Root- & Pattern- Morphology (Binyanim)

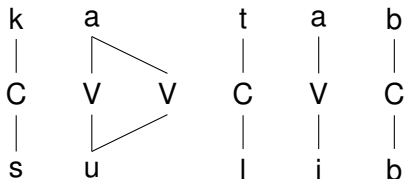
Binyan	Form	Gloss	Wugging
I	katab	'write'	lagat
II	kattab	'cause to write'	laggat
III	kaatab	'correspond'	laagat
IV	?-aktab	'cause to write'	?-algat
VI	ta-kaatab	'write to each other'	ta-laagat
VII	n-katab	'subscribe'	n-lagat
VIII	ktatab	'write, be registered'	ltagab
X	st-aktab	'write, make write'	st-algat
XI	ktaabab		lgaatat

# Problem I: Discontinuous Morphemes



## Problem II: Templatic Morphemes

**Binyan III**





# Ingredients of an Autosegmental Analysis

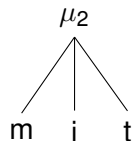
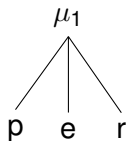
- ▶ Morphemic Affiliation by Autosegments
- ▶ Timing by Autosegments
- ▶ Vowels and Consonants as different Tiers

# Getting rid of juncture symbols: Morphemic Affiliation

SPE

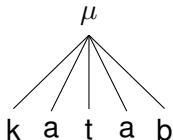
McCarthy (1981)

per+mit

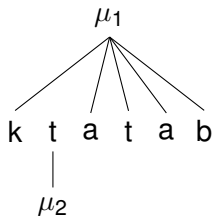


# Independent Motivation: Infixation

Binyan I  
'write'

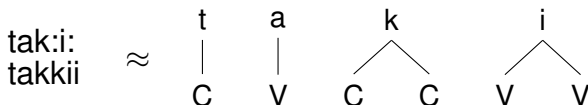


Binyan VIII  
'write, be registered'



## Timing by Autosegments

- ▶ Timing and segmental quality are represented on different tiers
- ▶ Timing slots are either V (syllabic position) or C (non-syllabic position). This is the 'skeletal tier'
- ▶ Short segments are linked to 1 timing slot  
Long segments are linked to 2 timing slots



# Independent Evidence: Geminates in Tiberian Hebrew

## Geminates as single segments – Postvocalic Spirantization:

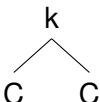
katab	⇒	kaθav	‘write’
ji-pgos	⇒	jiʃgoʃ	‘meet’
gibbor	⇒	gibbor	‘hero’

## Geminates as two segments – Vowel Reduction:

malak-im	⇒	mɐlaxim	‘kings’
galgal-im	⇒	galgalim	‘wheels’
sappir-im	⇒	sappirim	‘sapphires’

Autosegmental representation combines 1-segment and

2-segment aspects:

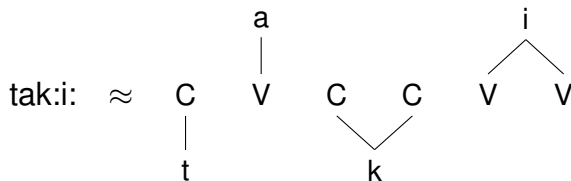


```

      k
     / \
    C   C
  
```

# Separating Vowels and Consonants

- ▶ Vowels and Consonants are on different autosegmental tiers
- ▶ Their relative order is mediated via the skeletal tier



# Independent Motivation Wolof Vowel Harmony

+ATR

gən-**e** 'be better in'

re:r-**e** 'be lost in'

do:r-**e** 'hit with'

-ATR

xam-**ɛ** 'know in'

dɛm-**ɛ** 'go with'

xɔl-**ɛ** 'look with'

[+ATR]

|

do:r-**ɛ**

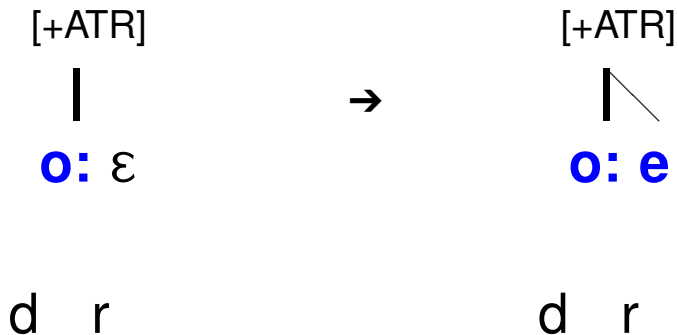
→

[+ATR][+ATR]

| |

do:r-**e**

# Autosegmental Phonology: Tier Locality





# Slicing Morphological Information into Tiers

(*kuutib*, Binyan III Perf., ‘write’)

**C V V C V C**

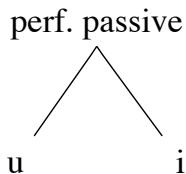
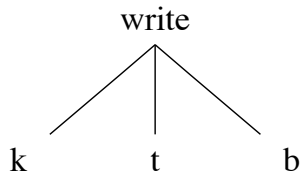
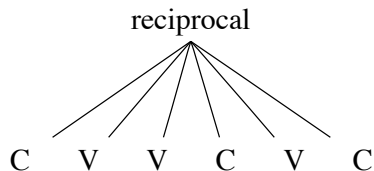
Binyan III, reciprocal (kaatab,kuutib)

**k t b**

write, (kattab,ktatab)

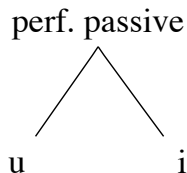
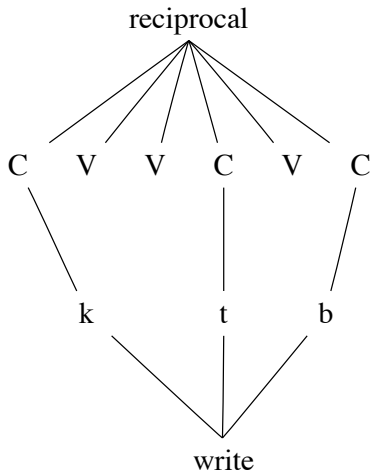
**u i**

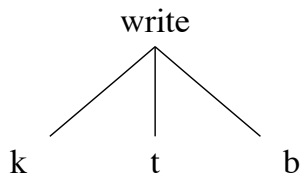
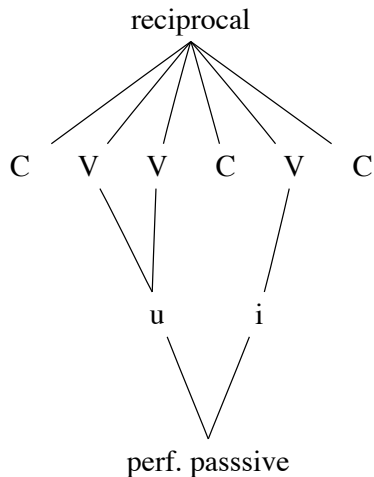
Perf. Passive (kutib,nkutib)

Slicing +  $\mu$ -Notation (*kuutib*, Binyan III Perf., 'write')

# The Spatial Geometry of Different Tiers

- ▶ Different tiers are strings in a three-dimensional space
- ▶ More than two tiers connected to the same tier are hard to depict on (two-dimensional) paper
- ▶ Every tier is parallel to every other tier
- ▶ Tiers cannot cross or overlap and association lines connecting different tier pairs cannot cross

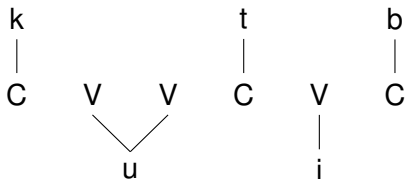
Slicing +  $\mu$ -Notation (*kuutib*, Binyan III Perf., 'write')

Slicing +  $\mu$ -Notation (*kuutib*, Binyan III Perf., 'write')

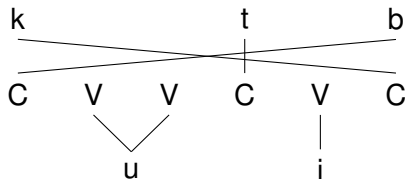
# Hard Constraints

1. Association lines never cross
2. Vowels link to Vs, Consonants to Cs
3. A skeletal node cannot be linked to two different segments on different tiers

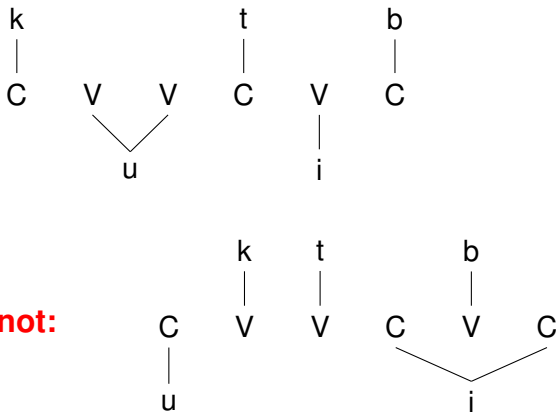
# Hard Constraint 1: Association Lines never Cross



**not:**



# Hard Constraint 2: Vowels link to Vs, Consonants to Cs





## Hard Constraint 3

- ▶ A skeletal node cannot be linked to two different segments on different tiers

**Underlying Assumption:** Different autosegmental morphemes are always on different tiers even if they specify information of the same type (e.g. they specify all consonantal melodies)

**Intuition:** “Preassociation is not altered”  
(Association to one morpheme cannot be altered by later association of another morpheme.  
This is the way McCarthy actually formulates the constraint)

## Hard Constraint 3: Preassociation is not altered:

C C V C V C  
 |  
 t

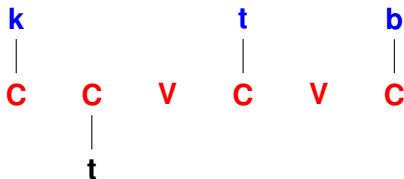
Binyan VIII

k t b

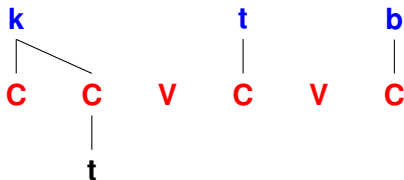
'write'

(ktatab)

# Hard Constraint 3: Preassociation is not altered



not:



# Soft Constraints

1. Every skeletal node is linked to a melodic node
2. Every melodic node is linked to a skeletal node

# The Central **Preference** (Preliminary Version)

Association should be as unique as possible

**i.e.**

1. Every skeletal node should be associated to **at most** one melodic node
2. Every melodic node should be associated to **at most** one skeletal node

# The Repair Algorithm (Preliminary Version)

## 1. If there are unassociated S-nodes and M-nodes:

- ▶ Associate S-nodes und M-nodes 1:1 from left to right (if possible without violating hard constraints)

## 2. Else: If there are unassociated S-nodes:

- ▶ Associate every unassociated S-node S to the M-node to which the S-node immediately preceding S is associated (if possible without violating hard constraints)

## 3. Else: If there are unassociated M-nodes:

- ▶ Associate every unassociated M-node M to the S-node to which the M-node immediately preceding M is associated (if possible without violating hard constraints)

## Revision by McCarthy

- ▶ Preference 2 (“Every melodic node should be associated to **at most** one skeletal node”) is promoted to the status of a soft constraint. **Consequently:**
- ▶ Repair Rule 3 is removed (it would create violations of the constraint)
- ▶ and replaced by a rule which delinks the previously linked melodic elements of the whole tier in case there is a violation of the soft constraint

# Binyan I: katab

**C V C V C**

Binyan

**k t b**

Root



# Binyan XI: ktaabab

**C C V V C V C**

Binyan

**k t b**

Root

# Complication 1: Template + Affix Morphology

Binyan	Form	Wugging	Template
IV	<b>ʔ</b> -aktab	<b>ʔ</b> -algat	CVCCVC
VI	<b>ta</b> -kaatab	<b>ta</b> -laagat	CVCVVC
VII	<b>n</b> -katab	<b>n</b> -lagat	CCVCVC
X	<b>st</b> -aktab	<b>st</b> -algat	CCVCCVC

## Binyan VI: **ta**-kaatab

**t** Binyan- $\mu_1$

**CVCVVCVC** Binyan- $\mu_2$

**ktb** Root

### Assumption:

Binyam VI consists of two morphemes: Binyan- $\mu_1$  & Binyan- $\mu_2$

Binyan- $\mu_1$  is combined with Binyan- $\mu_2$

before the root is combined with Binyan- $\mu_2$

## Complication 2: Wrong Association

<b>Binyan</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Wugging</b>	<b>Template</b>
<b>II</b>	kattab	laggat	CVCCVC
<b>VIII</b>	ktatab	lgagab	CCVCVC

## Binyan II: kattab

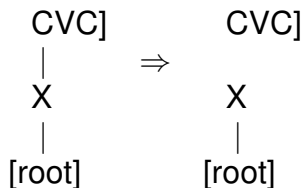
**C V C C V C**

Binyan

**k t b**

Root

### Second-Binyan Erasure



## Complication 3: Infixation

<b>Binyan</b>	<b>Form</b>	<b>Gloss</b>	<b>Wugging</b>
<b>VIII</b>	k <b>t</b> atab	'write, be registered'	<b>l</b> tagab

# Binyan VIII: ktatab

**t** Binyan- $\mu_1$

**C C V C V C** Binyan- $\mu_2$

**k t b** Root

## Eighth-Binyan Flop

