

# Featural Spreading and Affixation in Gaahmg

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# Goal of this talk

Investigate interaction and overlap  
between featural affixation and spreading  
in vocalic and tonal features  
of a complex single language

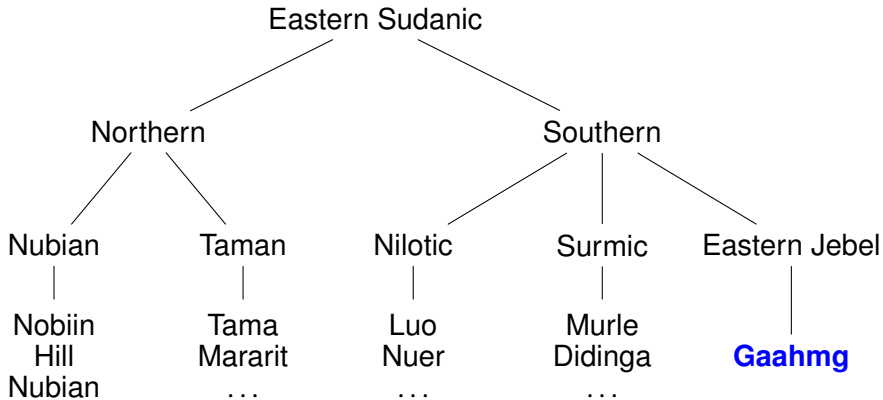
# Gaahmg

# Gaahmg [gə̀ə̀mg]

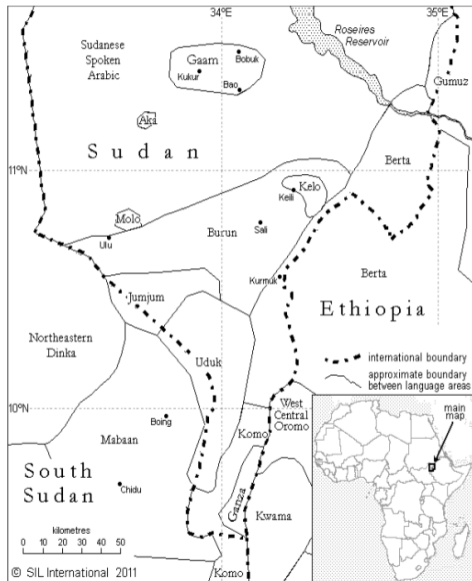
- ▶ Nilo-Saharan, Eastern Sudanic language spoken in the Blue Nile Province of Sudan
- ▶ spoken by roughly 67.000 speakers
- ▶ All data in this talk from the detailed grammar of Stirtz (2011)

# Eastern Sudanic Languages

(Bender 2000)



# Gaahmg [gə̀əm̩g]



# Gaahmg Phonology

- ▶ [+ATR]-dominant [ATR]-harmony
- ▶ Complex three-tone system (High + Mid + Low)
- ▶ Contour tones on heavy syllables
- ▶ Derived three-tone contours

# Theoretical Assumptions

- ▶ **Autosegmental Phonology:** (Goldsmith 1976, Snider 1999)  
Tonal and vocalic features are on independent tiers linked to segments and prosody via association lines  
Tones are decomposed into more atomic feature trees
- ▶ **Stratal OT:** (Bermúdez-Otero 2012)  
Root-Level Stem-Level, and Word-Level Evaluations feed each other serially. Different levels have potentially different optimality-theoretic constraint rankings
- ▶ **Colored Containment:** (van Oostendorp 2006, Trommer 2011)  
Underlying material (i.e. nodes and association lines) is never literally deleted, but retained in the output, and marked as phonetically invisible.



# Autosegmental Phonology

(Goldsmith 1976)

## Featural Spreading



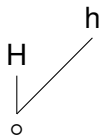
## Featural Affixation



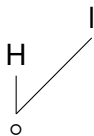
# Tone in Register Tier Theory

(Snider 1999)

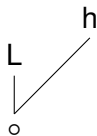
**High**



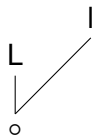
**Mid<sub>1</sub>**



**Mid<sub>2</sub>**



**Low**



# Stratal Organization

# Stratal Organization

- ▶ **Stem-Level:** Vowel Harmony, VCV-Lenition, C#-Vocalisation
- ▶ **Word-Level:** Vowel Harmony, (VCV-Lenition), –
- ▶ **Phrase-Level:** –

## Stem-Level Consonant Lenition

## (4) Final consonants in various environments re-presented

	UR	3sN INCP	3sN CONT.P	3sN COMP.D		
(a)	/ab/ L	àō	àw-án	àb-bāggā	[àbāgā]	'sit'
(b)	/kaj/ H	káé	káy-án	káj-jāggā	[kájágā]	'bring'
(c)	/cig/ M	cīi	cī-ón	cīg-góggō	[cīgógō]	'wear'
(d)	/cuḍ/ M	cūḍ	cūḍ-ón	cūḍ-ḍúggū	[cūḍúgū]	'climb'
(e)	/lof/ L	lōf	lōf-án	lōf-fōggō	[lōfōgō]	'do magic'
(f)	/las/ M	lās	lās-án	lās-sāggā	[lāságā]	'roll-up'
(g)	/jam/ M	jām	jām-án	jām-māggā	[jāmágā]	'break'
(h)	/gɔn/ L	gɔn	gɔn-án	gɔn-nōggō	[gɔnōgō]	'grab'
(i)	/gɔŋ/ L	gùŋ	gùŋ-ón	gùŋ-ŋūggū	[gùŋūgū]	'agree'
(j)	/mal/ M	māl	māl-án	māl-lāggā	[mālágā]	'gather'
(k)	/wer/ M	wēr	wēr-án	wēr-rāggā	[wērágā]	'watch'
(l)	/jaw/ H	jáó	jáw-án	jáw-wāggā	[jávágā]	'request'
(m)	/kɔy/ H	kóé	kóy-án	kóy-yóggō	[kóyógō]	'cook'

# Word-Level Conservation

(7) **Third singular agented passive clitic =  $\bar{E}$**   
**on incomplete forms with various root-final segments**

	Root	INCP 3sN	PAS.A INCP 3SN	
(a)	/ab/ L	àō	àð. = $\bar{e}$ , àw = $\bar{e}$	'sit'
(b)	/kaʃ/ H	káé	káé. = $\bar{e}$ , káy = $\bar{e}$	'bring'
(c)	/cig/ M	cīī	cīī. = $\bar{i}$	'wear'
(d)	/cuḍ/ M	cūḍ	cūḍ = $\bar{i}$	'climb'
(e)	/lɔf/ L	lɔf	lɔf = $\bar{e}$	'do magic'
(f)	/las/ M	lās	lās = $\bar{e}$	'roll-up'
(g)	/ɲam/ M	ɲām	ɲām = $\bar{e}$	'break'
(h)	/gɔn/ L	gòñ, gòḍ	gòñ = $\bar{e}$ , gòḍ. = $\bar{e}$	'grab'

(i)	/gɔɲ/ L	gùɲ	gùɲ = $\bar{i}$	'agree'
(j)	/mal/ M	māl	māl = $\bar{e}$	'gather'
(k)	/wer/ M	wēr	wēr = $\bar{e}$	'watch'
(l)	/ɲaw/ H	ɲáó-(n)	ɲáw = $\bar{e}$ , ɲáó-n = $\bar{e}$	'request'
(m)	/kɔy/ H	kóé-(n)	kóy = $\bar{e}$ , kóé-n = $\bar{e}$	'cook'
(n)	/féð/ H	féð-(n)	féð = $\bar{e}$ , féð-n = $\bar{e}$	'release'
(o)	/pa/ M	pāā, pā-d	pāā. = $\bar{e}$ , pā-d = $\bar{e}$	'guard'

# Stratal Organization in Lenition

**Root  
Level**

**Stem  
Level**

**Word  
Level**

/ab/ → |ao| → [ao]

/ab/+/an/ → |awan| → [awan]

/ab/ → |ao|+|an| → [aoan]

# Spreading and Affixation of [ATR]



## Advanced Tongue Root ([ATR]) in Gaahmg (Stirtz 2011:33)

Table 2: Vowel Phonemes

	[-round]		[+round]
	[-back]	[+back]	
[+ATR]	i	ə	u
[-ATR]	ɛ	a	ɔ

## [+ATR]-Dominant Vowel Harmony

(1) **Rightward [ATR] spreading to plural suffix -EEgg**

	Vowel	Noun SG	Noun PL	
(a)	ɛ	cèèr	cèèr-ēēgg	'singer'
(b)	a	ḍààr	ḍààr-èègg	'eagle'
(c)	ɔ	cɔɔl	cɔɔl-ēēgg	'donkey'
(d)	i	jííl	jííl-īigg	'cricket'
(e)	ə	gùùr	gùùr-īigg	'grinding stone'
(f)	u	ḍḍr	ḍḍr-ìigg	'sheep'

(2) **Leftward [ATR] spreading from imperative plural suffix -dA<sup>+</sup>**

	Vowel	IMP	IMP PL	
(a)	ɛ	féé	fíí-ḍḍ	'clean'
(b)	a	ṭál	ṭól-ḍḍ	'put, make'
(c)	ɔ	kóm	kúm-ḍḍ	'cut, chop'
(d)	i	ḍíú	ḍíú-ḍḍ	'plant'
(e)	ə	pâr	pâr-ḍḍ	'attach'
(f)	u	ṭúr	ṭúr-rū	'see'

## [+ATR] 2nd Person Affixation (Stirtz 2011:84)

(13) **Paradigm of short subject pronouns**

**on continuous non-past verb *kóm-ān* ‘cut, chop’**

á	kóm-ān	1sN	āgg	kóm-ān	1pN
ó	kúm-ān, ú = kúm-ān	2sN	ōgg	kúm-ān, ūg = kúm-ān	2pN
ē	kóm-án	3sN	ēgg	kóm-ân <sup>20</sup>	3pN

## Phonological Analysis of [ATR]-Harmony

Input: = c.	SHARE [ATR]	MAX [+ATR]	MAX [-ATR]
☞ a. <b>gù:r-ī:g</b>			*
b. gò:r-ē:g		*!	
c. <b>gù:r-ē:g</b>	*!		

Input: = c.	SHARE [ATR]	MAX [+ATR]	MAX [-ATR]
☞ a. <b>kúm-dū</b>			*
b. kóm-dō		*!	
c. kóm-dū	*!		

## Phonological Analysis of [+ATR]-Affixation

Input: kóm-an-[+ATR]	SHARE [ATR]	MAX [+ATR]	MAX [-ATR]
☞ a. kúm-ən			*
b. kóm-an		*!	
c. kóm-ən	*!		

# Tonal Affixation and Register Lowering

# Register Lowering

## Gaahmg Tonal Contrasts

(Stirtz 2011:43,45)

Table 5: Contrastive H, M, and L tones

H	óór	‘tree bark’
M	āār	‘anger’
L	èèr	‘sheep’

**(29) Tonal contrasts in infinitive verb forms**

	Root tone	INF	
(a)	H	fír-r	‘smell, pray’
(b)	M	cōr-r	‘help’
(c)	L	ḍùr-r	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pêr-r	‘attach’
(e)	HM (rare)	bēl-l	‘name, call’
(f)	ML (rare)	dṑs-s	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kǎǎ-ǎ	‘strike, ram’



# Gaahmg Register Lowering after Low-Tones

**High** → **Mid**

**Mid** → **Low**

Register Lowering: **High** → **Mid**

(Stirtz 2011:184,196)

## (38) Imperative forms with various root tone melodies

	Root tone	IMP	IMP.PL	
(a)	H	fír-ǎ	fír-rǎ	‘smell’
(b)	M	cǎr	cúr-rú	‘help’
(c)	L	ḍùr	ḍùr-rù	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pâr	pâr-rè	‘attach’
(e)	HM	bēl-ǎ	bíl-ḍǎ	‘name’
(f)	ML	dǎḍs-ǎ	dūùḍ-ḍù	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kǎḍ-ǎ	kǎḍ-ḍǎ	‘strike’

Register Lowering: **Mid** → **Low**

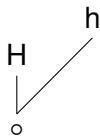
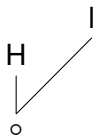
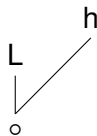
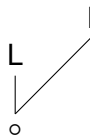
(Stirtz 2011:184,196)

(18) **Imperative verb forms with various root-final segments**

	Root	IMP	IMP PL	
(a)	/cuḍ/ M	cūḍ-ú	cúḍ-ḍū [cúḍū]	‘climb’
(b)	/las/ M	lās	lód-ḍō [lódō]	‘roll-up’
(c)	/gɔn/ L	gòṇ, gòḍ	gùḍ-ḍù [gùḍù]	‘grab’
(d)	/fēð/ H	fēḍ	fíḍ-ḍē [fíḍē]	‘release’
(d)			fíḍ-ḍō [fíḍō]	‘release’
(e)	/wer/ M	wēr	wír-rē [wír:ē], wír-ḍē	‘watch’
(f)	/ɲaw/ H	ɲás, ɲás-n	ɲású.-ū, ɲású-ḍū	‘request’
(g)	/kɔy/ H	kóé, kóé-n	kúí-ū, kúí-ḍū	‘cook’
(h)	/ab/ L	àḍ	àḍ-ḍù	‘sit’
(i)	/kaɲ/ H	káé	kási-ḍē	‘bring’
(j)	/cig/ M	cīi	cíg-ḍē	‘wear’
(k)	/lɔf/ L	lòf	lùḍ-ḍù	‘do magic’
(l)	/ɲam/ M	ɲām	ɲám-ḍē	‘break’
(m)	/gɔŋ/ L	gùŋ-ū	gùŋ-ḍù	‘agree’
(n)	/mal/ M	māl	mál-ḍē	‘gather’
(o)	/pa/ M	pāā	pá-ḍē	‘guard’
(p)	/beɛ/ L	bèè-nā	bìḍ-ḍà	‘say’

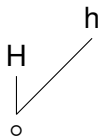
## Tone in Register Tier Theory (RTR)

(Snider 1999)

**High****Mid<sub>1</sub>****Mid<sub>2</sub>****Low**

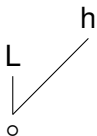
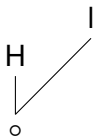
# Gaahmg Register Lowering in RTR

**High**



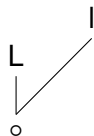
→

**Mid<sub>1</sub>**



**Mid<sub>2</sub>**

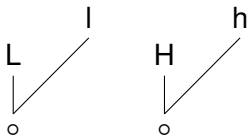
→



**Low**

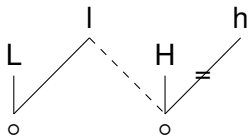
# Lowering of High to Mid

**Low-High**



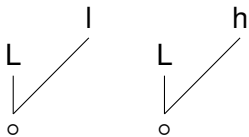
→

**Low-Mid**



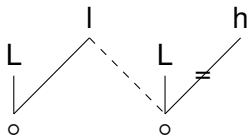
# Lowering of Mid to Low

**Low-Mid**



→

**Low-Low**



# Aggressive Lowering in the Continuous Non-past

## (43) Continuous non-past forms **-Ān** (H) with various root tone melodies

	Root tone	CONT.N 1sN	CONT.N 3sN	CONT.N 3pN	
(a)	H	fír- <u>ān</u>	fír- <u>án</u>	fír- <u>ân</u>	‘smell’
(b)	M	cōr- <u>ān</u>	cōr- <u>án</u>	cōr- <u>ân</u>	‘help’
(c)	L	ḍùr- <u>àn</u>	ḍùr- <u>ən</u>	ḍūr- <u>ən</u>	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pér- <u>ən</u>	pér- <u>ən</u>	pér- <u>ən</u>	‘attach’
(e)	HM	bél- <u>ān</u>	bél- <u>ān</u>	bél- <u>àn</u>	‘name’
(f)	ML	dōḍs- <u>ān</u>	dōḍs- <u>ān</u>	dōḍs- <u>àn</u>	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kǎḍ- <u>ən</u>	kǎḍ- <u>ən</u>	kǎḍ- <u>ên</u>	‘strike’



# Stratal Organization (after Low)

## Stem Level

**High** → **Low**

**Mid** → **Low**

## Word Level

**High** → **Mid**

**Mid** → **Low**

# Tonal Affixation

# Tonal Affixation (Future)

## Future and non-future pronouns (see 9.8.4)

Subject non-future

á

ó

āggá

ōggó

Subject future

ā

ō

āggā

ōggō

1s

2s

1p

2p

## Tonal Affixation (Subject Agreement)

Table 40: Subject person inflectional tone

	1sN	2sN	3sN	1pN	2pN	3pN
Root tone	+M	+M	+H	+M	+M	+L

## Subject Agreement + Register Lowering (Completive)

(35) **Completive forms with various root tone melodies**

	Root tone	COMP 1sN	COMP 3sN	COMP 3pN	
(a)	H	fír-sē	fír-sé	fír-sè	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr-sō	cōr-só	cōr-sò	'help'
(c)	L	ḍùr-sù	ḍùr-sū	ḍūr-sù	'bury'
(d)	HL	pâr-sè	pâr-sē	pâr-sè	'attach'
(e)	HM	bél-ḍā	bél-ḍá	bêl-ḍà	'name'
(f)	ML	dōḍs-sò	dōḍs-sō	dōḍs-sò	'stand'
(g)	MH	kǎs-sē	kǎs-sé	kǎs-sè	'strike'

## Subject Agreement + Register Lowering (Incompleteive)

(37) **Incompleteive forms with various root tone melodies**


	Root tone	INCP 1sN	INCP 3sN	INCP 3pN	
(a)	H	f <sup>̃</sup> ir	f <sup>̃</sup> ir	f îr	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr	cōr	côr	'help'
(c)	L	ḍùr	ḍùr	ḍùr	'bury'
(d)	HL	pâr	pá' r	pâr	'attach'
(e)	HM	bél	bé' l	bél	'name'
(f)	ML	dṑ̀s	dṑ̀s	dṑ̀s	'stand'
(g)	MH	kǎ̃ ð	kǎ̃ ð	kǎ̃ ð	'strike'

# Tonal Affixation & Contours – Constraints


- $\tau$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\sigma$
- Assign \* to every tone which is not dominated by a syllable
- $*\sigma_{3\tau}$
- Assign \* to every syllable which is associated to more than two tonal root nodes
- MAX  $\tau$
- Assign \* to every morphological tone  $\tau$  which is not phonetically realized

# Affixation and Contours at Different Strata

## Word Level

Input: = c.	$\tau$ $\downarrow$ $\sigma$	MAX $\tau$	* $\sigma_{3\tau}$
 a. $b\epsilon l_{HMH}$			*
b. $b\epsilon l_{HM}$		*!	
c. $b\epsilon l_{HM}+H$	*!		

## Morpheme/Stem Level

Input: = c.	* $\sigma_{3\tau}$	$\tau$ $\downarrow$ $\sigma$	MAX $\tau$
 a. $b\epsilon l_{HM}$			*
b. $b\epsilon l_{HMH}$	*!		



# Combined Affixation and Lowering

# Non-Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes

(37) **Third singular incomplete verbs with first singular *a*, third singular =É, first plural áāggá, and third plural =ÉÉggÁ object pronouns**

	Root	INCP tone	INCP 3sN/ 1sA	INCP 3sN/ 3sA	INCP 3sN/ 1pA	INCP 3sN/ 3pA	
(a)	H	fír	fír á	fír = í	fír áāggá	fír = îggà	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr	cōr á	cōr = é	cōr áāggá	cōr = éèggà	'help'
(c)	L	ḍùr	ḍùr ā	ḍùr = ī	ḍùr āāggá	ḍùr = îggà	'bury'
(d)	HL	pó' r	pôr ā	pôr = ī	pôr āāggá	pôr = îggà	'attach'
(e)	HM	bé' l	bél á	bél = é	bél áāggá	bél = éèggà	'name'
(f)	ML	bùn- ḍū	bùŋ-ḍ ā	bùŋ-ḍ = ī	bùŋ-ḍ āāggá	bùŋ-ḍ = îggà	'make. big'
(g)	MH	kóð	kóð á	kóð = í	kóð áāggá	kóð = îggà	'strike'

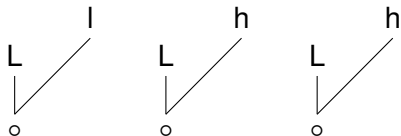
# Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes

- (36) **First singular incomplete verbs with second singular = *O*, third singular = *E*, second plural = *OOggÓ*, and third plural = *EEggÀ* object pronouns**

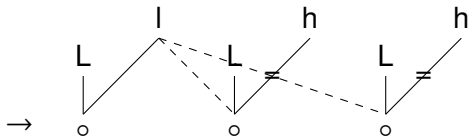
	Root	INCP	INCP	INCP	INCP	INCP	
	tone	1SN	1SN/ 2SA	1SN/ 3sA	1SN/ 2pA	1SN/ 3pA	
(a)	H	f'ír	fír = ū	fír = ī	fír = ūūggú	fír = īiggà	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr	cōr = ɔ̄	cōr = ē	cōr = ɔ̄ɔ̄ggó	cōr = ēēggà	'help'
(c)	L	ḍùr	ḍùr = ù	ḍùr = ì	ḍùr = ùùggū	ḍùr = ìiggà	'bury'
(d)	HL	pâr	pâr = ù	pâr = ì	pâr = ùùggū	pâr = ìiggà	'attach'
(e)	HM	bēl	bēl = ɔ̄	bēl = ē	bēl = ɔ̄ɔ̄ggó	bēl = ēēggà	'name'
(f)	ML	bùŋ- ḍù	bùŋ-ḍ = ù	bùŋḍ = ì	bùŋ-ḍ = ùùggū	bùŋ-ḍ = ìiggà	'make- big'
(g)	MH	kʂ̄ ð	kʂ̄ð = ū	kʂ̄ð = ī	kʂ̄ð = ūūggú	kʂ̄ð = īiggà	'strike'

# Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes

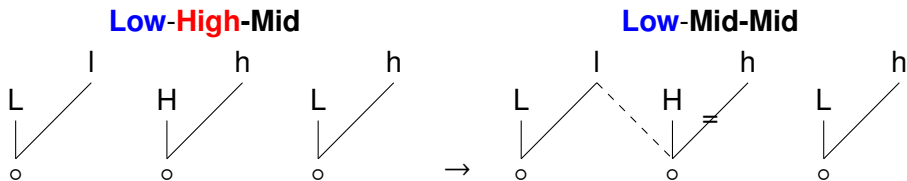
**Low-Mid-Mid**



**Low-Low-Low**



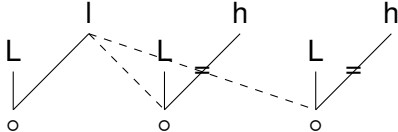
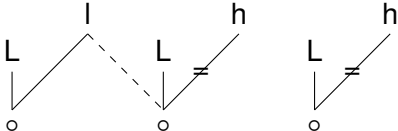
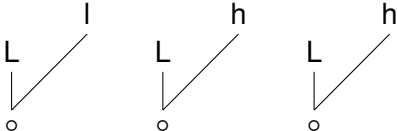
# Non-Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes



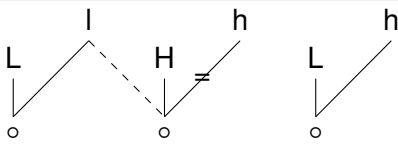
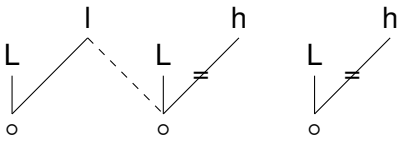
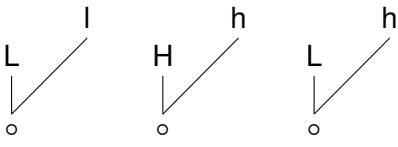
# Constraints on Register Lowering

- SHR [l]      Assign \* to every tonal root node which doesn't share the [l]-register of a preceding root node
- UNIFORMITY      Assign \* to every spreading [l] span with different target types
- \*[l]<sub>4</sub>      Assign \* to every [l]-span which covers more than 3 tonal root nodes

# Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes

Input: = c.	UNIF	*[I] <sub>4</sub>	SHR [I]
<p>a. </p>			
<p>b. </p>			*!
<p>c. </p>			*!*

# Non-Iterativity of Register Lowering: Object Suffixes

Input: = c.	UNIF	*[I] <sub>4</sub>	SHR [I]
<p>a.</p> 	*!		
<p>b.</p> 			*
<p>c.</p> 			**!



# Overwriting

# Tonal Overwriting in Inalienable Plural Possession

(51) Possessive paradigm for inalienable body part *bɔ̄rā* / *bɔ̄rā-gg* 'shoulder'

	Singular person pronouns			Plural person pronouns		
Noun SG	ā	bɔ̄rāà	1sPs	---		1pPs
	ɔ̄	bɔ̄rāà	2sPs	---		2pPs
	ē	bɔ̄rāà	3sPs	---		3pPs
Noun PL	ā	bɔ̄rāà-gg	1sPp	āgg	bɔ̄rāā-gg	1pPp
	ɔ̄	bɔ̄rāà-gg	2sPp	ūgg	bɔ̄rāā-gg	2pPp
	ē	bɔ̄rāà-gg	3sPp	ēgg	bɔ̄rāā-gg	3pPp

The tone assignment of the plural person possessive morpheme is described in (52).

(52) Plural person possessive L(M) tone assignment

Plural possessed body part nouns have LM pattern in that Mid tone surfaces on the final syllable and Low tone surfaces on the others. However, monosyllabic body part nouns have Low tone.

## Tonal Overwriting – Constraints

(Trommer 2011)

$\tau$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\sigma$

Assign \* to every tone which is not dominated by a syllable

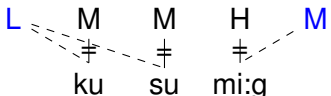
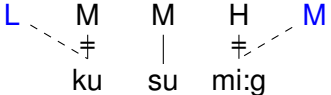
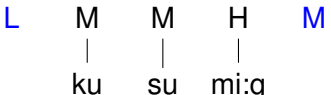
CONTIGUITY <sub>$\tau$</sub>

Assign \* to every tone which intervenes between two tautomorphic tones

MAX |

Assign \* to every morphological association line which is not phonetically realized

## Tonal Overwriting in Inalienable Plural Possession

Input: = c.	$\tau$ $\downarrow$ $\sigma$	<u>CONT</u> <sub><math>\tau</math></sub>	MAX
<p>a. </p>			***
<p>b. </p>		*!	**
<p>c. </p>	*!*		

# Tonal Overwriting in Verbal Noun Formation

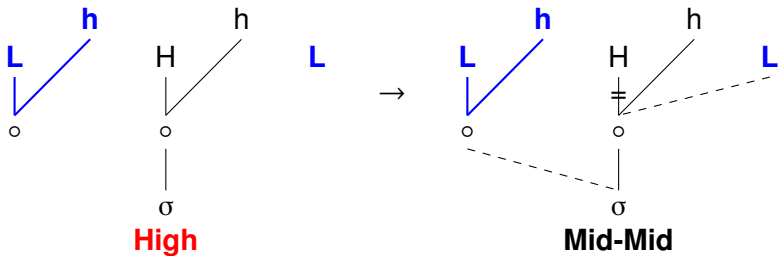
Table 54: Verbal noun tone changes

Root tone melody	Verbal noun tone melody
L, HL, ML	ML
all other melodies	M

(92) **Verbal noun plural clitics = *Agg*, = *gg***

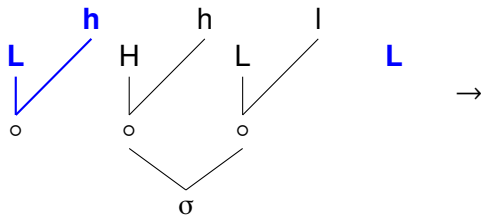
	Root tone	INF	VN tone	VN SG	VN PL	
(a)	H	pál-l	M	pāl	pāl = āgg, pāl = g	‘cut’
(b)	M	bēl-l	M	bēl	bēl = āgg, bēl = g	‘possess’
(c)	L	f èl-l	ML	f èl	fēl = āgg, f èl = g	‘tell’
(d)	HL	pîr-r	ML	pîr	pîr = àgg, pîr = g	‘deceive’
(e)	HM	bēl-l	M	bēl	bēl = āgg	‘name’
(f)	ML	dṑs-s	ML	---	dṑgs = ògg	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kǎ̀ð-ð	M	kā̀n	kā̀ð = āgg	‘strike’

## Tonal Overwriting in Verbal Noun Formation (H-Verb)

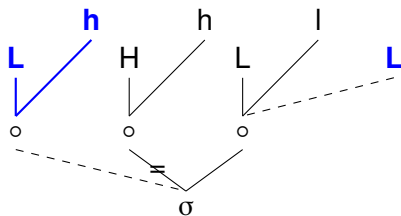


## Tonal Overwriting in Verbal Noun Formation (HL-Verb)

High-Low



Mid-Low



# Tonal Overwriting in Causative Formation

Table 45: Causative tone changes

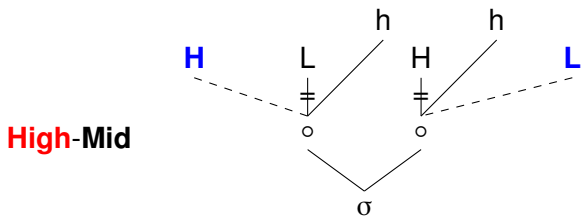
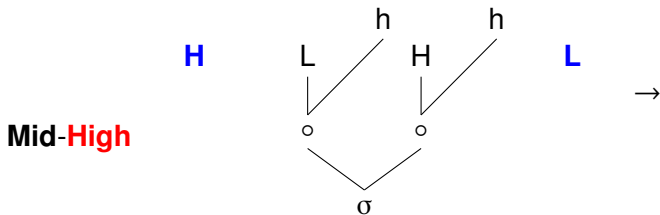
Root tone melody	Causative root tone melody
H	HM
M	HM
L	ML
HL, HM, ML	no change
MH	HM

(68) **Third singular causative completive verbs**

	Root tone	COMP 3SN	CAUS tone	CAUS COMP 3sN	
(a)	H	fír-só	HM	fír-só	‘smell’
(b)	M	cōr-só	HM	cūr-sú	‘help’
(c)	L	ḍūr-sū	ML	ḍūr-sū	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pâr-sō	HL	pâr-sō	‘attach’
(e)	HM	bēl-ḍá	HM	bīl-ḍá	‘name’
(f)	ML	dōḍs-sō	ML	dūùs-sū	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kōs-só	HM	kōs-só	‘strike’

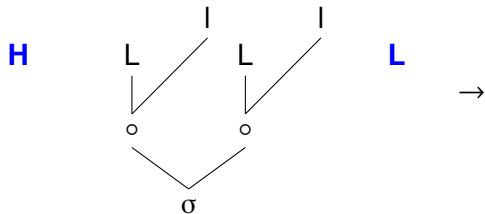


## Tonal Overwriting in Causative Formation (MH-Verb)

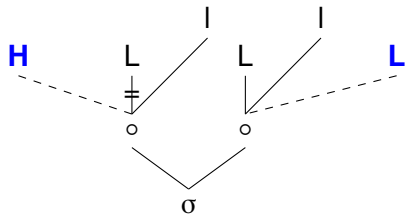


## Tonal Overwriting in Causative Formation (L-Verb)

Low-Low



Mid-Low



# Tone Shifting and Simplification

## Tone Shifting+Simplification in Plurals (Word Level)

## (41) Rightward tone spreading to unassigned suffix vowel

	Root tone	Suffix	N SG	N PL	
(a)	H	-Agg	kós	kós-ógg	'sorghum type'
(b)		-gg/-EEgg	ún-g	ún-ígg	'tear'
(c)	M	-Agg	māāḍ	māāḍ-āgg	'snake type'
(d)		-EEgg	kōr	kōr-ēēgg	'word, speech'
(e)		-ḍ/-EEgg	bāār-ḍ	bāār-ēēgg	'abdomen, waist'
(f)		-aaḍ/-gg	cāl-āāḍ	cāl-g	'testicle'
(g)		-əgg	tēēnḍ	tīīnḍ-əgg	'riddle'
(h)		-ḍ/-OOgg	kōr-ḍ	kōr-ōōgg	'bird type'
(i)	L	-Agg	jèèrs	jèèrs-àgg	'hippopotamus'
(j)		-EEgg	bààm	bààm-èègg	'bird type'

## (42) Second of two root-final tones reassigned to suffix vowel with no underlying tone

	Root tone	Suffix	N SG	N PL	
	HL	-Agg	îlj	îlj-əgg	'beeswax'
		-EEgg	fáàm	fáám-èègg	'opinion'
		-AAgg	téèl	téél-ààgg	'anchor'
		-AAḍ	máàm	máám-ààḍ	'paternal aunt'
	HM	-Agg	síjɿ	síjɿ-əgg	'tree type'
		-AAgg	cééō	cééw-āāgg	'lame person'
	ML	-Agg	kāṅāāḍ	kāṅāāḍ-àgg	'bowel for hot foot'
		-EEgg	gōmūūr	gōmūūr-ìigg	'dove'

## Same Pattern in Verbal Noun Plurals (Word Level)

Table 54: Verbal noun tone changes

Root tone melody	Verbal noun tone melody
L, HL, ML	ML
all other melodies	M

(92) Verbal noun plural clitics = *Agg*, = *gg*

	Root tone	INF	VN tone	VN SG	VN PL	
(a)	H	pál-l	M	pāl	pāl = āgg, pāl = g	‘cut’
(b)	M	bēl-l	M	bēl	bēl = āgg, bēl = g	‘possess’
(c)	L	f èl-l	ML	f èl	f èl = āgg, f èl = g	‘tell’
(d)	HL	pîr-r	ML	pîr	pîr = àgg, pîr = g	‘deceive’
(e)	HM	bēl-l	M	bēl	bēl = āgg	‘name’
(f)	ML	dṣḏs-s	ML	---	dṣgs = ḏgg	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kṣḏ-ḏ	M	kān	kāḏ = āgg	‘strike’

## Aggressive Simplification in the Continuous (Stem Level)

(43) **Continuous non-past forms -Ān (H) with various root tone melodies**

	Root tone	CONT.N 1sN	CONT.N 3sN	CONT.N 3pN	
(a)	H	fír-ĕn	fír-én	fír-ĕn	‘smell’
(b)	M	cōr-ĕn	cōr-án	cōr-ĕn	‘help’
(c)	L	ḍùr-ĕn	ḍùr-ĕn	ḍūr-ĕn	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pér-ĕn	pér-ĕn	pér-ĕn	‘attach’
(e)	HM	bél-ān	bél-ān	bél-àn	‘name’
(f)	ML	dōḍs-ān	dōḍs-ān	dōḍs-àn	‘stand’
(g)	MH	kǎḍ-ĕn	kǎḍ-én	kǎḍ-ĕn	‘strike’

# Word-Level: No Aggressive Tone Simplification

## (80) Perfect -*CAr* on third singular incomplete verbs

	Root	INCP	PF INCP	
	tone	3sN	3SN	
(a)	H	fír	fír-rór	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr	cōr-rár	'help'
(c)	L	ḍür	ḍür-rōr	'bury'
(d)	HL	pó' r	pôr-rōr	'attach'
(e)	HM	bé' l	bél-lár	'name'
(f)	ML	dṑ̀ s	dṑ̀s-sōr	'stand'
(g)	MH	kǒ̀̀	kǒ̀̀-ǒ́r	'strike'

## (38) Locative/Dative clitic = *ǎn* on consonant-final singular nouns with various tone melodies

Tone	N SG	N PL	LCM/DAT N SG	LCM/DAT N PL	
H	wáár	wáár-g	wáár = ǎn	wáár-g = ǎn	'insect type'
M	ḍōm	ḍōm-g	ḍōm = ǎn	ḍōm-g = ǎn	'Arab'
L	kààm	kààm-g	kààm = ǎn	kààm-g = ǎn	'cow type'
HL	séèn	séèn-g	séèn = ǎn	séèn-g = ǎn	'ruler'
HM	jórgāāl	jórgāāl-g	jórgāāl = ǎn	jórgāāl-g = ǎn	'bird type'
ML	kǒ̀̀èl	kǒ̀̀èl-g	kǒ̀̀èl = ǎn	kǒ̀̀èl-g = ǎn	'baboon'
LH	àggáár	àggáár-g	àggáár = ǎn	àggáár-g = ǎn	'hunter, rider'
LM	gǒ̀̀èn	gǒ̀̀èn-g	gǒ̀̀èn = ǎn	gǒ̀̀èn-g = ǎn	'metal worker'
MH	báár	báár-g	báár = ǎn	báár-g = ǎn	'tribe member'

## Stem Level: No Simplification to Light Syllables

(35) **Completive forms with various root tone melodies**

	Root tone	COMP 1sN	COMP 3sN	COMP 3pN	
(a)	H	fír-sē	fír-sé	fír-sè	'smell'
(b)	M	cōr-sō	cōr-só	cōr-sò	'help'
(c)	L	ḍùr-sù	ḍùr-sū	ḍūr-sù	'bury'
(d)	HL	pâr-sè	pâr-sē	pâr-sè	'attach'
(e)	HM	bél-ḍā	bél-ḍá	bêl-ḍà	'name'
(f)	ML	dōḍs-sò	dōḍs-sō	dōḍs-sò	'stand'
(g)	MH	kǎs-sē	kǎs-sé	kǎs-sè	'strike'



# Stratal Organization

## Stem Level

- ▶ **Aggressive:** Simplification of some contours affects syllables prespecified for tone
- ▶ **Weight-sensitive:** Simplification only shifts tone to heavy syllables

## Word Level

- ▶ **Opportunistic:** Simplification of contours only affects toneless syllables
- ▶ **Weight-insensitive:** Simplification affects all syllables

## Shifting+Simplification in Antipassives (Stem Level)

Table 43: Antipassive tone changes

Root tone melody	Antipassive root tone melody
H	HM
M	MH
L	LH
HL, HM, ML, MH	no change

(59) **Antipassive suffix –*An* on third singular complete verbs**


	Root tone	3sN COMP	ANTIP tone	3SN ANTIP COMP	
(a)	H	fír-só	HM	fír-ǝn-só	‘smell’
(b)	M	cōr-só	MH	cōr-ón-só	‘help’
©	L	ḍùr-sū	LH	ḍùr-ūn-sú	‘bury’
(d)	HL	pêr-sǝ	HL	pér-èn-sǝ	‘attach’
(e)	HM	bél-ḍá	HM	bél-ān-sá	‘name’
(f)	ML	būḅ-sū	ML	būḅ-ḍ-ùn-sū	‘make-big’
(g)	MH	kǝs-só	MH	kǝǝ-ón-só	‘strike’

# Constraints on Tone Simplification


- \*CONTOUR<sub>HL</sub>      Assign \* to every phonetic melody tone contour HL associated to a single syllable
  
- \*CONTOUR      Assign \* to every phonetic tone contour associated to a single syllable
  
- \*CONTOUR<sub>light</sub>      Assign \* to every tone contour associated to a single light syllable
  
- $\tau$ -LIN      Assign \* to every melody tone which is syllable-initial in the input, but not in the output

## Stem-Level Tone Simplification: HL


## Completive:

Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>
a. fir <sub>H</sub> sə <sub>L</sub>	*!		
 b. fir <sub>HL</sub> sə		*	*

## Antipassive:


Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>
 a. fir <sub>H</sub> ən <sub>L(h)</sub>			
b. fir <sub>HL</sub> ən <sub>h</sub>		*	*

## Continuous:


Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>
 a. fir <sub>H</sub> ən <sub>L(H)</sub>			*
b. fir <sub>HL</sub> ən <sub>H</sub>		*	*

## Stem-Level Tone Simplification: ML


## Completive:

Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>	τ-LIN
a. fir <sub>M</sub> sə <sub>L</sub>	*!			
 b. fir <sub>ML</sub> sə			*	

## Antipassive:


Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>	τ-LIN
 a. fir <sub>M</sub> ən <sub>L(h)</sub>				
b. fir <sub>ML</sub> ən <sub>h</sub>			*!	

## Continuous:


Input: = b.	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>	* <u>CONT</u>	τ-LIN
a. fir <sub>M</sub> ən <sub>L(H)</sub>			*	*!*
 b. fir <sub>ML</sub> ən <sub>H</sub>			*	

# Word-Level Tone Simplification:

## Perfect:

<b>Input:</b> = b.	$\tau$ -LIN	* <u>CONT</u>	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>
a. pər <sub>H</sub> rər <sub>LH</sub>	*!	*		
 b. pər <sub>HL</sub> rər <sub>H</sub>		*		*

## Plural:

<b>Input:</b> = b.	$\tau$ -LIN	* <u>CONT</u>	*CONT <sub>light</sub>	* <u>CONT</u> <sub>HL</sub>
 a. pɪr <sub>H</sub> əg <sub>L</sub>				
b. pɪr <sub>HL</sub> əg		*!		*

# Summary

Featural Affixation uses:

- ▶ same **mechanisms** as spreading
- ▶ same **featural representations**
- ▶ same morphophonological **strata**

# References

- Bender, M. L. (2000). Nilo-Saharan. In Heine, B. and Nurse, D., editors, *African Languages: An Introduction*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
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- Trommer, J. (2011). Phonological aspects of Western Nilotic mutation morphology. Habilitation Thesis, University of Leipzig.



# Overview

## Introduction

- Goals

- Gaahmg

- Theoretical Assumptions

- Stratal Organization

## Spreading and Affixation of [ATR]

## Tonal Affixation and Register Lowering

- Register Lowering

- Tonal Affixation

- Combined Affixation and Lowering

## Overwriting

## Tone Shifting and Simplification