Icelandic problem (J. Bobaljik)

Instructions. On the following pages, you will find some data from Icelandic and some phonological rules which are needed to account for the alternations. No other phonological rules are necessary and your answers should therefore use no true allomorphy. You should find a unique underlying representation for each morpheme, and all surface variation should be derivable using only the three rules given.

1.   List all of the **<u>affixes</u>** you find in the data. For each one give the following information:

> ➤ underlying phonological representation (not the surface phonetic form)

> ➤ cyclic or non-cyclic

> ➤ meaning (One exception: for the suffix which derives 'glacier' from 'ice' and 'package' from 'pack' you do not need to give a meaning).

2.   State the order in which the phonological rules apply, and for each one indicate whether it applies Across The Board or whether it is Morphologically Sensitive.

> NB. For each phonological rule **<u>justify</u>** your choice of ATB or MS. For example, if a rule is Morphologically Sensitive, you should give a form where the rule fails to apply even though the structural description is met.

3.   Give derivations of the following words, showing the underlying forms of the morphemes and how the phonological rules operate to derive the surface form:

dagur 'day [NOMINATIVE]'   dögum 'day [DATIVE.PLURAL]'
jökli 'glacier [DATIVE]'   akurinn 'the acre'

DATA:
Stress is on the first syllable in all words.

NOTE: Icelandic has case suffixes. In the following data, there are separate morphemes for each of [NOMINATIVE], [DATIVE], [GENITIVE.PLURAL], [DATIVE.PLURAL] and [DATIVE.DEFINITE] (Do not try to split these into further pieces such as PLURAL). You need to identify these, but do not need to worry about understanding them. E.g., given the pair:

  byl 'snowstorm'   byls 'snowstorm [GENITIVE]'

you would correctly identify two morphemes: a root *byl* 'snowstorm' and a suffix –*s* with the "meaning" 'GENITIVE'. Note that in Icelandic, the [NOMINATIVE] is a suffix and is not equivalent to the plain noun (in many languages the nominative is null).

hamar	'hammer'	Nikulas	'Nicholas'
hamarinn	'the hammer'		
hamri	'hammer [DATIVE]'	barn	'child'
		börnum	'child [DATIVE.PLURAL]'
akur	'acre'		
akurinn	'the acre'	byl	'snowstorm'
akri	'acre [DATIVE]'	bylinn	'the snowstorm'
ökrum	'acre [DATIVE.PLURAL]'		
		mo	'peat'[2]
dagur	'day [NOMINATIVE]'	mor	'peat [NOMINATIVE]'
dagurinn	'the day [NOMINATIVE]'	moum	'peat [DATIVE.PLURAL]'
dagi	'day [DATIVE]'		
dögum	'day [DATIVE.PLURAL]'	fifil	'dandelion'
		fifli	'dandelion [DATIVE]'
lækni	'doctor'		
læknir	'doctor [NOMINATIVE]'	morgun	'morning'
		morgni	'morning [DATIVE]'
jak	'ice'		
jökul	'glacier'	alin	'ell'[3]
jökli	'glacier [DATIVE]'	ölnum	'ell [DATIVE.PLURAL]'
bagg	'pack'	akarn	'acorn'
böggul	'package'	akörnum	'acorn [DATIVE.PLURAL]'
böggli	'package [DATIVE]'		
		staDnum	'place [DATIVE.DEFINITE]'
ragin	'gods'	staDur	'place [NOMINATIVE]'
ragna	'gods [GEN..PLURAL]'	stöDum	'place [DATIVE.PLURAL]'

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[2] Peat is a type of soil, found in swampy areas, which can also be burned for fuel.
[3] An ell is a measure (typically of cloth) = 115cm.

PHONOLOGICAL RULES:

Do not invoke any phonological rules (including statements of allomorphy) other than those given below.

(1) Syncope: V $\rightarrow$ Ø / ___ C V
  [-stress]

> An unstressed vowel is deleted when immediately followed by a single, intervocalic consonant.

(2) Epenthesis: Ø $\rightarrow$ u / C___ r #

A /u/ is inserted between a consonant and an /r/ when the /r/ is word-final.

(3) Umlaut: a $\rightarrow$ ö / ___ C_0 u

The vowel /a/ is fronted to /ö/ [=œ] when the next syllable contains a /u/.
[The notation C_0 means "a sequence of zero or more consonants"]