

Week 2  
LING 105: Morphology  
Apr. 14, 2023

**Announcement**

No sections next week (Apr.21)!

Instead I will have two extra office hours (time TBD) to help you with the proposal. I will also try to accommodate appointments outside my office hours before Friday (Apr.21). Email me with 2-3 time slots if you would like to meet but can't make it my office hours.

## 1 Allomorphs

- Morphemes may have different phonological shapes under different circumstances.

⇒ **Allomorphs**: a single morpheme's different forms

- Allomorphs are in complementary distribution.
- e.g. Korean accusative suffix has 2 allomorphs

ton	'money'	ton-ul	'money-ACC'	→ following a consonant
chayk	'book'	chayk-ul	'book-ACC'	
tali	'leg'	tali-lul	'leg-ACC'	→ following a vowel
sakwa	'apple'	sakwa-lul	'apple-ACC'	

- **Alternation**: the formal relation between phonological allomorphs

- Describing alternation in the following steps:
  - a. underlying representations
  - b. the respective rules in the examples
  - c. application of rule and surface representations

- **Suppletive allomorphs**: allomorphs that are not at all similar in pronunciation

- e.g. Persian plural marking:

mærd	'man'	mærd-an	'men'
geda	'beggar'	geday-an	'beggars'
gorbe	'cat'	gorbe-ha	'cats'
ettefaq	'incident'	ettefaq-ha	'incidents'

## 2 Somali plural marking

Four different allomorphs of plural marking in Somali are represented in the following examples. Based on the given data, formulate a hypothesis about the phonological conditions for each of the plural allomorphs.

SINGULAR	PLURAL	
awowe	awowayaal	'grandfather' $\Rightarrow$ S ends w/ 'e', drop the 'e', replace with 'ayaal'
baabaco	baabacooyin	'palm' $\Rightarrow$ S ends w/ 'o', add 'oyin'
beed	beedad	'egg' <del><math>\Rightarrow</math> S ends w/ 'e', drop the 'e', replace with 'aad'</del>
buug	buugag	'book'
cashar	casharro	'lesson' $\Rightarrow$ 2 syllables and ends w/ 'e', repeat 'e' and add 'o'
fure	furayaal	'key'
ilmo	ilmooyin	'tear'
miis	miisas	'table' $\Rightarrow$ CVCVC $\rightarrow$ add aC <sub>2</sub>
qado	qadooyin	'lunch'
shabeel	shabeello	'leopard'
warraabe	waraabayaal	'hyena'
xidid	xididdo	'eagle'

Based on the generalizations found, form the plural of the following nouns:

- (1) a. tuulo 'village'  $\rightarrow$  tumlooyin
- b. tog 'river'  $\rightarrow$  togag
- c. albaad 'door'  $\rightarrow$  albaaddo
- d. buste 'blanket'  $\rightarrow$  bustayaal

## 3 Research questions

- Step 1: Think of a broad question that you would like answered.
  - Language
  - Phenomena
  - Theory
- Step 2: Explore the literature
  - What questions are not answered by the existing literature on the topic you picked?
  - Think 'how' and 'why' while reading
- Step 3: Pick and evaluate
  - Choose a specific question that arose when reading the literature
- Maiden (2014):
  - Phenomenon: in Megleno-Romanian dialects, two adjectives display suppletion correlated with number
  - Research question:
- \* Extra tips:

- Start by typing the keywords (e.g. 'language name + morphology', or 'phenomenon + language') in Google scholar or UCLA library

Go to Google Scholar **Finnish morphology**

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