

1 A morphonological example

Latin verb roots ending in a coronal stop take the *-s-* perfect allomorph and many verbs have corresponding agent nominals in *-sor*. Heslin (1987) observes that root-final coronal is assibilated after short vowels, as in (1a), and deleted before long nuclei, as in (1b).

(1) Perfect passive participles in *-s-us* and agents in *-sor*:

a.	<i>metere</i>	‘reap’	<i>messus</i>	‘harvested’	<i>messor</i>	‘reaper’
	<i>fodere</i>	‘dig’	<i>fossus</i>	‘dug’	<i>fossor</i>	‘digger’
b.	<i>plaudere</i>	‘applaud’	<i>plausus</i>	‘applauded’	<i>plausor</i>	‘cheerer’
	<i>ldere</i>	‘play’	<i>lsus</i>	‘played’	<i>lsor</i>	‘player’

2 A mathematical example

Zipf (1949) notes a linear relationship between log word frequency r and log frequency r . A generalized form of this relationship, shown in (2), is what is now known as Zipf’s Law.

$$(2) \quad f(C, \alpha) = \frac{C}{r^\alpha}$$

References

T. P. Heslin. Prefixation in Latin. *Lingua*, 72(2–3):133–154, 1987. G. K. Zipf. *Human behavior and the principle of least effort: An introduction to human ecology*. Addison-Wesley, Cambridge, 1949.