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## STUDIES IN AFRICAN LINGUISTICS

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BADE/NGIZIM VOWELS AND SYLLABLE STRUCTURE\*

Russell G. Schuh University of California, Los Angeles

Among the vowels of Bade and Ngizim, the short high vowels play a functional role different from the other vowels. Although word final i and u are full-fledged phonemes (nonpredictable and contrastive), both the position of occurrence and the quality of the phonetic high vowels [i, a, u] is predictable in medial position: the quality is determined by other segments in the environment; the position is determined by restrictions against certain groupings of consonants. Bade and Ngizim differ in one important respect in the placement of non-final short, high vowels, viz. through a change called PROTHESIS, original initial sequences of the type \*C<sub>1</sub> aC<sub>2</sub> ... (still realized as such in Ngizim) are now realized as  $\partial C_1C_2$  ... in Bade if  $C_1C_2$  is not an impermissible sequence. This is true for all words with no more than two consonants, though the situation is somewhat more complicated in longer words; tone of the initial syllable is also seen to play a role. The permissible sequences of consonants, and as a consequence the environment for PROTHESIS, are discussed in the light of universal hierarchies of consonantal strength and principles of syllabification in conjunction with a restriction in Bade/Ngizim against two consonants occurring at a syllable margin.

#### 1. Introduction

1.1. <u>The languages</u>. Bade and Ngizim are two closely related languages of the West Chadic branch of the Chadic family spoken in northeastern Nigeria. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Research on Ngizim was conducted mainly from 1969-70 in Potiskum, Nigeria under the auspices of NSF grant no. GS-2279 (Paul Newman, Principal Investigator). Research on Bade was conducted from 1973-75 in Gashua, Nigeria while I was employed as a Research Fellow in the Centre for the Study of Nigerian Languages, Bayero University College, Kano. My thanks to Paul Newman for useful comments on an earlier draft of this paper.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The most recent classification of Chadic languages [Newman 1977] divides the Chadic family into four major branches: West Chadic, spoken almost entirely in northeastern Nigeria; Biu-Mandara, spoken in northern Cameroon and adjacent areas of Nigeria and Chad; East Chadic, spoken in Western and central Chad; and Masa, spoken in Cameroon and Chad south of N'Djamena.

Ngizim is spoken in an area fanning out to the east from Potiskum. Bade is spoken north of Ngizim in an area from Gashua to the west and south. Bade and Ngizim are no longer in contact, but the migration of the Ngizims southward and the ultimate separation of the two language communities has taken place only in the last few hundred years.

Ngizim has virtually no dialect differentiation other than a few lexical differences among villages. Bade, on the other hand, has considerable differentiation at all linguistic levels (see Schuh [1977a] for many examples in the determiner system and associative noun phrases). The dialect used here is that of Gashua and adjacent villages. Although there are a number of phonological differences between this dialect and others, all dialects are virtually identical in the respects relevant to this study.

1.2. Scope of the present study. One of the main areas of interest in Bade and Ngizim phonology is the distribution of high vowels. In fact, high vowels in both languages function primarily as epenthetic vowels to break up impermissible consonant sequences. The paper begins with a summary of the vowel phonology of this group, concentrating on the distribution of high vowels.

Following this is a description of a phonological difference between Bade and Ngizim, which is discussed and illustrated in detail. Briefly stated, this difference is the following: under certain conditions, in an initial sequence  $C\begin{bmatrix} V \\ + high \end{bmatrix}$  C Bade has dropped the vowel and added a prothetic high vowel to give a sequence  $\begin{bmatrix} V \\ + high \end{bmatrix}$  CC, whereas Ngizim has not done this, e.g. Ngizim gùzép 'slave' but Bade ùgzéf 'slave'.

Finally, certain universal principles of syllabification which have been proposed are cited as bearing on the distribution patterns of Bade and Ngizim high vowels.

#### 2. Bade/Ngizim Vowels

2.1. <u>Vowel nuclei</u>. The simple vowel nuclei of Bade and Ngizim are given in (1):

a, aa

Doubled vowels represent long vowels; the symbol a represents phonetic [i] and hence is one of the set of high vowels.

The mid vowels are of secondary origin, having entered the languages through borrowing and monophthongization of diphthongs. Long aa and short a contrast in all environments, though long as is extremely rare in word final position. Some minimal or near minimal pairs are given in (2):

(2)	ā	ia		i	3	
	Ngizim	Bade		Ngizim	Bade	
	dàasú	daasú	pour !	dàsú	dàsú	'finish'
	gàadú	kàadú	'bite'	gàdú	kàdú	'break'
	àaɗáu	àadáu	'south'	àdán	àdán	'crying'

No high vowels can be reconstructed word initial for proto-Bade/ Ngizim,<sup>3</sup> though in Bade the sound change mentioned above and discussed in detail below has produced initial [uu] (< \*wu), [ii] (< \*yi), [uC] (< \*Cu), and [əC] (< \*Cə).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Tone marks are acute accent (') for high tone, grave accent (') for low, circumflex accent (') for falling, and tick (') for downstep. The following transcription conventions should also be noted: c and j are voiceless and voiced palatal affricates respectively; sh and zh are voicless and voiced palatal fricatives respectively; ny is a palatal nasal, analyzed as a unit phoneme, not a sequence; 'y is a glottalized palatal semivowel; tl and jl are voicless and voiced lateral fricatives respectively; kw and gw are labialized velar stops, not stop-semivowel sequences.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>This statement is true for nouns. There may be one or two survivals of initial \*i in verbs (see Table, fn. 15). If we move one historical step back, we must reconstruct initial \*i in both nouns and verbs. Duwai, the most closely related language to Bade and Ngizim, has initial i, which is phonetically [ii] but does not contrast with [i] in this position, e.g. lida 'eye' (cf. Bade and Ngizim da), lijé 'dog' (cf. Bade and Ngizim ja).

Medially the long high vowels, ii and uu contrast with each other and with other vowels. There are no minimal ii/uu pairs, but there is no way to predict which vowel will be used on the basis of phonological environment. As we will see below, the short high vowels i/u/ə are not in contrast medially—the quality of a medial short high vowel is phonologically predictable. Some minimal or near minimal sets showing medial contrast between ii and uu and between these vowels and the medial short high vowel(s) are given in (3):

(3) long high vowels short high vowels
zìidú sìidú 'slaughter' zèdù èzdù 'six'
víidà fíidà 'hare' vèdà èvdà 'open space'
dúuzhì dúuzì 'owl' dèzhí dèzí 'vein'
rùunú lùunú 'spread to dry' rhú rhú (< \*rènú) 'fornicate'

Long high vowels do not occur underlyingly in word final position. There is, however, a monophthongization rule shared by Bade and Ngizim which changes the word final diphthong -ai to [ii] and -au to [uu] when the word occurs in the middle of a phrase, e.g.

The short high vowels i and u are in contrast with each other and with a and aa (also with the mid vowels ee and oo ) in word final position. There are no lexical minimals pairs distinguished only by final i or u, but choice of i, u, or the absence of a vowel cannot be predicted phonologically. The vowel [ə] does not occur underlyingly word final, but word final /i/ and /u/ change to [ə] medially in a phrase under the appropriate conditions (see below).

<sup>&</sup>quot;Minimal sets can be constructed in the verbal system where different verb forms are marked by final vowel changes, among other things, e.g. Ngizim jà kòrú 'we stole', jà kòrì 'that we steal', jà kòrá 'we should steal'.

2.2. Quality of medial short high vowels. The quality of medial short high vowels is determined by phonological environment. The rule for determining the choice of [i], [u], or [ə] is given in (6).

Conditions: (1) Vowel does not precede pause.

(2) When the env. for both [i] and [u] are met, the env. following the vowel overrides the env. preceding the vowel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Phonetically a wider range of vowels than these exists. Thus, following palatals the vowel tends to be somewhat fronted, e.g. Ng jèjém [jijím] 'thorn', and following labial fricatives the vowel tends to be somewhat rounded, e.g. Ng vèrú [vòrú] 'go out'. Also, the following environment generally exercises a stronger influence than preceding. Thus, the vowel following w is not as strongly rounded as when preceding w, and in my field notes I have often transcribed a ə instead of a u following w but never preceding w, e.g. Ng wèdú or wùdú 'cut', but only Ng fùwú 'get down', never \*fèwú.

The conditioning environments for [i] and [u] may either precede or follow the vowel. In the transcription used here it is the vowel u which marks a velar as labialized (there are no labialized consonants at other points of articulation). Thus, in Ngizim the word for 'stomach' is underlyingly /kwənú/ and 'heavy' is underlyingly /dəkwší/, where a is used as a cover symbol for "short high vowel". Some examples of each of the medial short high vowels are given in (7). Many more examples can be seen above and below.

As condition (2) states, if the environments for both [i] and [u] are present, the following environment takes precedence.

Rule (6) is not only a statement of phonetic constraints on high vowels within words but is also a productive phonological rule applying to any word final high vowel when it occurs in the middle of a phrase.

 $<sup>^6\</sup>mathrm{For}$  reasons given below, in Bade there could never be a high vowel before y with a w or velar following.

2.3. Position of medial short high vowels. Except for word final | and U, short high vowels appear only where they are needed to break up impermissible consonant sequences. A major consonant sequence restriction can be summarized by the observation that "the maximum syllable is CVC". This restriction rules out the sequences CCC, #CC, and CC#. Numerous examples have already been seen where a high vowel appears in #C C to break up a word initial cluster and in C C# to break up a word final cluster. It is difficult to find examples within a word where a high vowel which breaks up a CCC sequence cannot be explained by some other sequential restriction as well. However, as with rule (6), this restriction is a productive phonological rule as well as a restriction on word formation. An example of an underlying CCC sequence broken up by a high vowel is seen in Noun + Noun associative constructions. These constructions have the form  $N_1$ -k  $N_2$ . If the first noun  $(N_1)$  ends in a consonant and the second  $(N_2)$  begins in a consonant, a three consonant sequence would result. This sequence is broken in up by inserting a after the associative morpheme /k/ (see 10a). Note that no ə is inserted if  $N_1$  ends in a vowel or  $N_2$  begins in a vowel (see 10b).

Use of high vowels to break up word initial and word final sequences is also a productive rule which comes into play when morphemes are combined. Example (lla) illustrates use of a high vowel to break up an impermissible CC# sequence, but the non-appearance of this vowel where the consonant sequence is not word final. Example (llb) illustrates the same thing for a word initial sequence. In this position examples are found only in Ngizim since Bade would have #əCC rather than #CəC (see below).

Besides these restrictions on the number of consonants which may appear in a sequence, there are also restrictions on which consonants may appear in a sequence. The most important restriction, shared by both languages, is the impermissibility of the sequence obstruent + sonorant consonant. Obstruents include all oral stops, fricatives, and affricates; sonorants include all nasals, liquids, and semivowels. Some examples of words containing obstruent + sonorant sequences separated by short high vowels are given in (12).

(12)	Ngizim	Bade					
	ázhèmák	ázèmák	'Acacia seyal' b	out no	*azmak ,	,	etc.
	zàpènú	sàb <b>è</b> nú	'churn'		*zapnu ,	,	etc.
	kákérà	kákélà	'load'		*kakra ,	,	etc.
	kàtèrú	ùkcèrú	'hop'		*katru ,	,	etc.
	sésúwà	tésúwà	'stalk'		*səswa	,	etc.
	vàvìyú	bàbìyú	'singe'		*vavyu ,	,	etc.

A more detailed discussion of sequence restrictions shared by both languages is given in section 3.2.

There are a few differences between the languages in restrictions. Bade, but not Ngizim, has relaxed the restriction against obstruent + sonorant if the obstruent is /g/. Note in (13), however, that when /g/ has been allowed to abut with a following sonorant it has also undergone phonetic changes. We will return to this point in sections 3.2 and 4.

Bade, but not Ngizim, freely allows syllables of the shape CVVC (a long vowel in a closed syllable). In Ngizim, the second C belongs to a separate syllable with a short high vowel nucleus. I have found no cognates where Bade has  $C_1VVC_2C_3$  ... and Ngizim has  $C_1VVC_2 = C_3$  ..., but the examples in (14) will illustrate the situation in the two languages.

A restriction found in Bade but not in Ngizim prohibits the sequence obstruent + glottalized consonant. $^8$ 

I should stress here that the epenthetic function of vowels discussed

 $<sup>^7\</sup>text{Ngizim}$  does have a few words of the shape  $\text{C}_1\text{aaC}_2\text{C}_3\dots$  They are all verbs and they usually have a verbal noun of the form  $\text{C}_1\text{aaC}_2\text{aC}_3$ , e.g. kàaktlú 'measure' with verbal noun kàakátl, nàanmú 'beat (drum)' with verbal noun nàanám. This restriction seems to be lexically specific word medial.

This restriction seems to be lexically specific word medial. Along-side the word 'boil' given in (15) is sapdu 'pound grain to remove bran' in both languages. There are also several other examples, mostly where the first obstruent is a velar, in which both languages allow a consonant sequence, e.g. akka 'desert date' in both languages and the verb 'step on' in (14). The restriction in Bade against obstruent + glottalized consonant sequences is absolute where these are the first two consonants of a word, as will be shown in 3.2.

in this section applies only to short high vowels. Other vowels can occur freely in any position, as illustrated in (16).

(16) (Ng and Ba) pátà 'the bush' vs. áptà 'flour'
(Ng) mâbú 'large calabash' vs. ámbài 'locust bean cakes'
(Ba) mâzám 'blacksmith' vs. ámzèm 'groaning'

In these examples, a appears between pairs of consonants which can freely abut (p + t, m + b, m + z) or before these pairs of consonants. This freedom of occurrence is not possible for short high vowels, e.g. corresponding to the first set of words in (16), \*əpta would be impossible in Ngizim and \*pəta would be impossible in Bade.

#### 3. Bade and Ngizim Word Initial Sequences

3.1. <u>Bade PROTHESIS</u>. A conspicuous sound change, or better, a change in word structure, has affected Bade but not Ngizim. This change can be formulated as in (17):

#### (17) Bade PROTHESIS

proto-Bade-Ngizim words of the structure \*#C1 C2 ... in Bade acquire the structure \* C1C2 ...

where  $\, \varTheta \,$  = any short high vowel and  ${\rm C_1C_2}$  form a permissible consonant sequence in Bade

It would be tempting to formulate this change as  $^*\#C_1 \circ C_2 \ldots > \#\circ C_1 C_2 \ldots$ , but this formulation makes the change look like simple metathesis of  $^*C_1$  and  $^*\vartheta$ . By using the formulation in (17) and by calling this change PROTHESIS, my intention is to stress that viewing this change as a metathesis is not the correct way to conceptualize what has taken place, viz. a change in Bade in the way impermissible word initial segment sequences are avoided. The change can perhaps be viewed as involving two discrete but simultaneous steps: (i) deletion of  $^*\vartheta$  between  $^*C_1$  and  $^*C_2$  and (ii) the consequent addition of prothetic  $^*\vartheta$  (what Lukas [1967/68] calls a Stutzvokal) to avoid the sequence  $^*G_1C_2 \ldots$  Or, as an alternative, more abstract analysis, we could say that proto-Bade-Ngizim (and modern Ngizim) inserted  $^*\vartheta$  between  $^*C_1$  and  $^*C_2$  whereas Bade now inserts  $^*\vartheta$  before  $^*C_1C_2$ . There are cases of true metathesis in Bade, e.g. Bade  $^*p\acute{e}ks\acute{a}$ ,

Ngizim fəska 'face' (< \*fəska); Bade əgvu, Ngizim vəgu 'fall down' (< \*vəgu). Cases such as these differ from PROTHESIS in that no principles of organization of the phonology of Bade have been changed—two segments have merely switched place in certain lexical items. In the case of PROTHESIS, there is a change in the phonological structure of Bade—conditions or rules for the positioning of short high vowels have changed.

- 3.2. Comparison of Bade and Ngizim initial sequences. The environments where PROTHESIS has not applied in Bade are the same as those word medial environments where a vowel is required to prevent an impermissible consonant sequence. In (18) I have a more detailed listing of the impermissible consonant sequences of Bade (and Ngizim) than was presented in 2.3. These are the sequences which must be separated by a vowel and therefore have not permitted PROTHESIS to apply in Bade.
- (18) a. identical consonants: may not come together to form geminates; this includes cases where  $C_1 \neq C_2$  only with respect to voicing
  - b. obst + obst: impermissible if (i)  $C_1$  is a stop and  $C_2$  is a homogranic fricative
    - (ii) C<sub>2</sub> is glottalized (in Bade only, though Bade does allow /g/ + glottalized)

all other obst + obst sequences are permissible

- c. obst + son: none permissible (except in Bade where  $C_1 = /g/$ )
- d. son + obst: all possible with the following qualifications
  - (i) of nasals, only  $\mbox{/m/}$  can disagree in point of articulation with  $\mbox{C}_2$
  - (ii) sporadic cases of m followed by s/z require epenthetic ə
- e. son + son: impermissible if  $C_1$  is n and  $C_2$  is a semivowel all others permissible, with some variation where  $C_1$  is m or where both  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are nasals

Examples of all the possible sequences illustrating PROTHESIS or absence of PROTHESIS are given in Table 1. Discussion of (18) and Table 1 continues on page 266. Footnotes to Table 1 are on p. 265.

Table 1. Examples of PROTHESIS or absence of PROTHESIS in Bade

The left-hand word is from Ngizim, the right-hand word from Bade. Unless otherwise stated, the words are cognates with identical meaning. A notation such as (\*bəd ...) means no words containing that sequence were found. Unless otherwise indicated, lines marked "no examples" probably represent accidental gaps. See the end of the Table for footnotes.

			OBSTRUENT SEQUENC	ES		
	Sequence pos	ssible		Sequence im	possible	
	Ngizim	Bade		Ngizim	Bade	
Stop + Stop						
lab + lab				bébét	pébét	'ashes'
lab + alv	pètú	èρtèkú	(Ng) 'pull out'			
			(Ba) 'be able'			
	(*bəd)	èbdú	'ask'			
				pádám	ùbéd	(Ng) 'far'
						(Ba) 'toss up'
lab + vel			no examples			
alv + lab	dèbú	èdbú <sup>9</sup>	'establish'			
				dèĜú	dèbú	'water animals'
alv + alv				dédém	tádam	'blood'
alv + vel	t èkà	<b>à</b> t kwà	'body			
	d <b>èg</b> à	èdgà <sup>9</sup>	'arrow'			
	dekáú	àdkwái <sup>9</sup>	(Ng) 'exceed'			
			(Ba) 'metal'			
vel + lab	gùbàmtú	<b>à</b> gb <b>à</b> mtú	'sweel up'			

	gùbú	ùu6ú	'moisten'			
		< *ùg6ú		(*kəb)	κὰδά	'close'
vel + alv	k <b>ù</b> tů	ùktú	(Ng) 'wash w.o. soa	ip'		
			(Ba) 'take'			
	gùdú	ùgdú	'gourd'			
	gèjì	ègjì⁰	'thirst'			
	(*gəd)	ùudà	'haste'			
		< *ùgďà		kádén	kèɗáu	(Ng) 'one'
						(Ba) 'exceed'
vel + vel				kúků	kúkwau	'baobab'
Ston + Enjag	atimo					
Stop + Frice	<u>rolve</u>		no exemples			
lab + lab			no examples			
lab + alv	pèsú	<del>à</del> psú	(Ng) 'be worn out'			
			(Ba) 'bathe'			
	bèzú	èbzú	'leave'			
lab + vel			no examples			
alv + lab	tèfú	<b>à</b> t fú	'enter'			
	δìvéb	epeape	'night			
alv + alv				dèzhí	dèzí	'vein'
alv + vel <sup>10</sup>			no examples			
vel + lab	gùvàrú	ègvàalàkáu	'Acacia nilotica'			
vel + alv	kùtlái	ùkt lá i	'children'			
	gèzhàn	ègzàn	'Nile monitor'			
$vel + vel^{10}$			no examples			

	Sequence pos	ssible		Sequence im	possible	
	Ngizim	Bade		Ngizim	Bade	
Fricative +	Stop					
lab + lab			no examples			
lab + alv	fètàk	fètú	(Ng) 'hoof'			
			(Ba) 'postpone'			
	vèjí	èvjí	'monkey'			
				fédú	fédú	'four'
				vèdáu	vèdáu	'urine'
lab + vel	vègú	( <b>*ə</b> vg)	'fall'			
	t l èpú	èt I pú	'clap'			
	zèbú	èzbú	(Ng) 'meet'			
			(Ba) 'throw away'			
				(jlàbèrú)	t I è b è I ú	'split wood'
	sètú	èstú	(Ng) 'sharpen to p	oint'		
			(Ba) 'burn'			
	<b>zà</b> dù	èzdù	'six'			
				zèdú	j I èdú	'dig'
	t lèkwàkùràk	<b>à</b> tlkwàakwàlàk	'bark'			
	zègáu	èzgáu	'know'			
vel + lab,	alv, vel <sup>ll</sup>		- no examples			
Fricative +	Fricative					
lab + lab				(*fəf)	féfau	'breast'
lab + alv			no examples			

```
lab + vel^{10}
                                     - - no examples - -
             sə̀fú
                          èsfú
alv + lab
                                          (Ng) 'coax'
                                          (Ba) 'sweep'
             (zèbàbìyú)
                          àz và vì yú
                                          'wash grain'
                                                             sésàu
                                                                          sésàu
                                                                                         'hut'
                                                             (*jləjl...) jləjlá
                                                                                         'fennec'
alv + vel^{10} ----- no examples -----
vel + lab, alv, vel<sup>10</sup> - - - - - - no examples
                                          OBSTRUENT + SONORANT12
                                                             (no ex. of lab + m)
obs + nas
                                                             b<mark>ànú</mark>
                                                                          bènú
                                                                                         'cook'
                                                             fènà
                                                                          fènà
                                                                                         'calabash'
                                                             dèmán
                                                                          dèmán
                                                                                         'rainy season'
                                                             zèmànú
                                                                          zèmànyí
                                                                                         'ostrich'
                                                             t I ènú
                                                                          t lànú
                                                                                         'blow nose'
                                                                          kùnàmú
                                                             kúnâmú
                                                                                         'fan palm'
             gèmà
                           [ე̀má]
                                          'thigh'
                                                             (but cf. Ba gènà 'like, as')
             gènú
                           <u>[</u> որ ը
                                          'accept'
             gènyí
                           [jnyí]
                                          'penis'
                                                             bèlân
                                                                          bèlân
                                                                                         'good'
obs + liq
                                                             fèrà
                                                                          fèlà
                                                                                         'illness'
                                                             tèrá
                                                                          tèrá
                                                                                         'moon'
                                                             t ləramú
                                                                          tlèlèm
                                                                                         'harvest season'
```

	Sequence p	ossible		Sequence imp	ossible	
	Ngizim	Bade		Ngizim	Bade	
				kèrú	kàlú	'steal'
	gèràbú	[àγιàβú]	'be startled'	(but cf. Ba	gùlú '	jealousy')
obs + s.v.				bùwà	bùwà	'trip'
				vìyú	vìyá	(Ng) 'wash'
						(Ba) 'tiger nut
				tùwàyú	tùwàyú	'forget'
				zhìyám	zìyám	(Ng) 'molar'
						(Ba) 'cuspid'
				kùyú	kùyú	(Ng) 'grasp'
						(Ba) 'package'
	(there are	no examples of	f /g/ + semivowel wo:	rd initial)		
			SONORANT + OBSTRUEN	<sub>[</sub> 13, 14		
m + lab	mbàsú	m̀bàl	(Ng) 'sit'			
			(Ba) 'beer'			
	m̀pàatú	m̀pàat ú	'provide for'			
	(máfíyà)	m̀fú	(Ng) 'breathing'			
			(Ba) 'grunt, gro	an'		
m + alv	mèdú	m̀dú	(Ng) 'tie up'			
			(Ba) 'rool into	balls'		
			(Da) IOOI IIIOO			
	mètú	m̀t ú	'die'			
	mètú mèsèk	m̀tú m̀sèk				

```
m + vel
                                            no examples
n + lab
                                            no examples
             ndìiwà
                           'ndá
                                           'people'
n + alv
             'ntú
                           'ntú
                                           'swallow'
             (*n(ə)s ...) nsi
                                           'hippopotamus'
             ŋgàs
                           ὴgàs
                                           'spear'
/n/ + vel
             ὴkàltú
                           'nkú
                                           (Ng) 'care for'
                                           (Ba) 'fill'
                           èlpàatú
                                           (Ng) 'close'
r/I + lab
             rèpú
                                           (Ba) 'weave (mat)'
             rèvú
                           ùνΙ6
                                           'sip'
             ràbú
                           à16ú
                                           'move'
             rdú
                           rdú
                                           'crawl'
r/I + alv
             rjlú
                           rjlú
                                           'moisten'
             rdú
                           rdayú
                                           (Ng) 'stop'
                                           (Ba) 'melt'
                                           'migrate'
             règú
                           èlgú
r/I + vel
y/w + lab^{15} iivú
                           (*iiv ...)
                                           'leave'
                                           no w + lab
             wùtú
                           ùutú
                                           'go to meet'
y/w + alv
                                        - no y + alv
v/w + vel^{15}
             ìikáu
                           ìikáu
                                           'see'
```

#### SONORANT + SONORANT

			SONORANT + SONORA	JIN.T.		
	Sequence po	ssible		Sequence in	mpossible	
	Ngizim	Bade		Ngizim	Bade	
m + n	mànú	m̀nú	'await'			
				m <b>è</b> náafêk	mènáafèk	'hypocrite'
m + liq	mðrák	m̀làk	'oil		= Ba məlak	
				(màrí)	n <b>èlí</b>	'beard'
m + s.v.	mìyá	m̀yá	'mouth'		= Ba. mìyá	
n + m	nàmìyú	àlmì yú	'flood'			
		< *ènmìyú		nèmú	n∂mú¹6	
n + liq			- no examples			
n + s.v.		,	- no n + w			
				nìyú	nìyú	'swim'
r/l + m	rèmáu	èlmáu	(Ng) 'run away'		= Ba lèmáu	
171 - 111	, 5,,,,,,	o i i i d	(Ba) 'leave'			
r/l + n	rnú	rnú	'fornicate'			
r/I + s.v.	rùwái	àlwái <sup>9</sup>	'farming'			
	rìyàk	àlyàk <sup>9</sup>	'Andropogon gayar	nus'		
y/w + nas	wùnú	ùunú	'spend the day'			
•	(*yin)	ìiná	'departure'			
			- no y/w + m			
y/w + liq	wùrá	ùulá	'neck'			
			- no y + liq			
y/w + s.v.	yùwán	ìiwàn	'sleeping'			
,	, (*wuy)	ùuyú	'hang'			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>There is a strong vocalic transition between the consonants but this seems not to be perceived by speakers. It is probably also present between corresponding voiceless consonants but is not so obvious because it is voiceless. I did not investigate which sequences of consonants have the strongest such transitions or how systematic it was.

<sup>10</sup>There are no velar fricatives in Ngizim or the Gashua dialect of Bade. In Gashua Bade, reconstructable \*x and \*γ have changed to k and g; in Ngizim their fate is somewhat more complicated and need not concern us here. The Western and Southern dialects of Bade do preserve \*x and \*γ, usually pronounced [h] and [h] respectively, though noticeable velar friction can still be heard with some speakers. These sounds are relatively infrequent so that there are lexical gaps for most potential sequences involving velar fricatives. Of stop + fricative sequences only the word dəhán 'land' is found (cf. Gashua dialect ˈədkà). Absence of PROTHESIS suggests that h now functions as a sonorant though it was originally an obstruent.

<sup>11</sup> See fn. 10. An example of h + d is hòdàwú 'dry up' (cf. Gashua Bade kòdàwú ).

<sup>12</sup>Western Bade has velar fricative + sonorant separated by high vowels in hùnú 'flay' (cf. Gashua Bade kènú), hèrú 'save' (cf. Gashua kèlú), and hùyú 'package' (cf. Gashua kùyú).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>In Ngizim, word initial nasals followed by a homorganic voiced stop form a prenasalized stop; the nasals are syllabic before other consonants. In Bade, all word initial nasals followed by a consonant are syllabic.

 $<sup>^{14}</sup>$ Western Bade has sonorant + velar fricative sequences in  $\mathring{\eta}$ hwú 'fill' (cf. Gashua  $\mathring{\eta}$ kú ) and  $\mathring{\theta}$ lhú 'say' (no cognate in Gashua).

<sup>15</sup>The examples cited here may not have been original \*yiC ... at all. Initial \*i must be reconstructed for the proto-language (see fn. 3); these may be survivals of this vowel, which has been lost in Ba and Ng nouns.

 $<sup>^{16}</sup>$ Both Ngizim and Gashua Bade have alternative pronunciations |  $\grave{\mbox{bmú}}$  . This results from a fairly common dissimilation of  $^*$ n > | when a nasal follows. Western Bade has only  $\grave{\mbox{b}}$  | mú for this word.

(18a) Geminate consonants are not found in native words in Bade or Ngizim except where they are separated by a morpheme boundary, e.g. Bade /wún-lì/ → [wúllì] 'his son', Ngizim /àasék-gú/ → [àaséggú] 'the market'. Abutting obstruents must agree in voicing, so this restriction prevents pébet 'ashes' from becoming \*əpbət or \*əbbət, etc. Geminates do occur in a few borrowed words, e.g. Ng kákkádì, Ba kákkádů 'paper' from Kanuri.

(18b) (i) The only examples of stops followed by homorganic fricatives involve alveolars as in Bade dəzí 'vein', which does not become \*adzí; the absence of \*pəf..., \*bəv... and the absence of \*kəh..., etc. in Western Bade (cf. fn. 10) may or may not be systematic gaps in the lexicon. (ii) The restriction in Bade against the sequence obstruent + glottalized consonant which seemed to be lexical in the middle of a word (cf. (15) and discussion) is nearly absolute in word initial position, i.e. there are words like Bade sədú 'wash' but no \*əsdú, etc. The only exception is /g/ + glottalized consonant. Here, PROTHESIS has applied, \*g has shifted to w, and the initial high vowel has assimilated to it by rule (6), ultimately giving initial long [uu], e.g. [ùubú] 'moisten' < \*gùbú.

Aside from the above restrictions, all obstruent sequences are possible with the priviso in the discussion of (18a) above that abutting obstruents must agree in voicing. The voice feature of obstruents in both languages is heavily determined by environmental factors. Not only is there the rule that abutting obstruents must agree in voice but also the ubiquitous rule of final devoicing, e.g. Ng mágðráf, Ba mágðláf 'visitor' with underlying final /v/ as evidenced in the plurals mágðrðvavín and mágðlálvón respectively (Ngizim also has an alternative plural mágðrðfcín where /v/ is devoiced preceding the voiceless c). Moreover, Ngizim has undergone a sound change assimilating an original voiceless obstruent to voiced if the next syllable begins in a voiced obstruent, e.g. Ng gðazá 'chicken' (cf. Hausa kàazáa). Bade has undergone just the opposite dissimilation process of devoicing an original voiced obstruent if the next syllable begins

in a voiced obstruent, e.g. Ba kádùwà 'Grimm's duiker' (cf. Hausa gàdáa). 17 Given the unstable nature of the voicing feature of obstruents in this language group, it is not surprising to find that PROTHESIS in Bade has applied with obstruent sequences, whether or not the consonants originally agreed in voicing, e.g Ba àzdù 'six' (cf. Hausa shídà), àgdém 'crocodile' (cf. Hausa kádàa).

(18c) Both in the middle of a word and word initial, the restriction against the sequence obstruent + sonorant is absolute. The relaxation of this restriction for /g/ + sonorant in Bade (but not Ngizim) shows some dialect variation in Bade. Gashua Bade has gone about the furthest of any dialect here, but even Gashua Bade speakers freely allow pronunciations such as  $g = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$ 

In sequences where obstruents are generally disallowed as the first of abutting consonants, then, the restriction in Bade has been relaxed only for /g/. But even here a phonetic [g] is not found. In (19) the effects of following consonants on /g/ are summarized:

 $<sup>^{17} \</sup>rm{These}$  sound changes have affected obstruents only when the following syllable began in a voiced <code>obstruent</code>. Thus, Ngizim has <code>kèrú</code> 'steal' without voicing of <code>k</code> (cf. Karekare <code>cèrú-</code>) and Bade has <code>gàlú</code> 'grow old' (cf. Kirfi gàarò 'old') without devoicing of <code>g</code>. There are no productive alternations resulting from these changes in Ngizim or Gashua Bade, but in part of the Western Bade area alternations such as the following are found: <code>té-jlàwí</code> 'seated' but <code>dè-tlávà</code> 'pierced'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Though there are no words with original \*#giy ... > #agy ..., Bade /g/  $\rightarrow$  [ $\gamma$ ] / \_\_\_y was seen in magya 'ratel' in (13). I know of no words with the original sequence \*guw . Presumably these would become [gw] in Bade since labialized velars contrast with plain velars, e.g. gayim 'cat', gwayí 'Acacia albida'.

Since [n] and [y] are not phonemic, words with these phonetic consonants can still be analyzed as having underlying /g/. Variant pronunciations with [g] probably protect the underlying status of /g/ in such words.

Note that there are some words without variant pronunciations where original \*g before liquids has become [w], causing merger with original \*w , e.g. âulái 'hare'--cf. Western Bade ágùrén .

(18d) Sonorant + obstruent sequences are all possible. Only the sequence  $m(\vartheta)$  + obstruent needs some comment. The phonemic nasals are /m, n, ny/, but only m may disagree in point of articulation with a following obstruent, e.g. mtu' 'die' but no \*nb ..., \*nyt ..., etc. There are no words in either Bade or Ngizim with the sequence m + velar. The absence of an initial sequence m + velar is probably an accidental gap (the word mdy' 'ratel' seen in (16) has such a sequence, but Bade has changed this to mdy', not mdy'. The absence of such sequences within a word is apparently the result of an old assimilation process m > m / \_\_\_\_velar, which is probably no longer productive. Evidence for this assimilation is found in the single word mdy' 'sew' in both languages (cf. Hausa mdy' make ) with the Bade verbal noun mdy' in both languages (cf. Hausa mdy' make ) with the reanalyzed Ngizim verbal noun, mdy' with mdy' substituted for mdy'.

PROTHESIS has always applied in Bade when the consonant following m is any labial or when it is an alveolar stop. It has usually applied when the next consonant is an alveolar fricative, e.g. mzəmú 'groan', but with a few lexical items it has not, e.g. məzəmá 'the fish Gymnarchus niloticus', məzəlí 'day after tomorrow'.

(18e) With the sole exception of n + semivowel, all sonorant sequences are possible. There are no examples of original \*nuw ..., but words such as Bade kàancínùwà 'merciful' suggest that \*nw is impossible as is the sequence n + y illustrated in Table 1. When  $C_1$  is m there is some variability if the next consonant is n or a liquid (the only word with m semivowel is 'mouth', which has variants both with and without PROTHESIS in Bade). The only words I found with \*mən ...

are given in Table 1: Bade has undergone PROTHESIS in one but not the other. If  $C_1$  is m and  $C_2$  is a liquid, some words have variants with and without PROTHESIS (mlak = malak 'oil'), some do not have a variant with PROTHESIS (malak 'beard').

Original \*n can abut with m but in the only examples that I know of in Gashua Bade, \*n has dissimilated to [1], viz. ¿lmìyú 'flood' and kàlmú 'beat drum' (cf. Bade verbal noun kànám = kàlám and Ngizim kànmú). Even the word nàmú 'build', where for some reason PROTHESIS has not applied, there is a variant pronunciation làmú (cf. fn. 16). Note that there are variants with [n] and [1] only where the phoneme in question was originally \*n , not where it was a liquid (cf. Bade ¿lmáu = làmáu 'run away' < \*rèmáu , but never \*nòmáu/\*ànmáu). There are no examples of n + liquid. This may or may not be an accidental gap, but note that n + liquid would become a geminate liquid by a productive assimilation rule, e.g. Ba /wún-lì/ → [wúllì] 'his son'.

In Bade when PROTHESIS has applied where C<sub>1</sub> is a nasal or liquid, the phonetic result is not always  $\ni$ CC ... Rather, no initial  $\ni$  is found, nasals become syllabic, and liquids become syllabic before alveolars<sup>19</sup> (but not consonants at other points of articulation). This is consistent with the analysis of the change in Bade on p. 256, where I stated that the initial  $\ni$  was a prothetic vowel added to avoid an initial consonant sequence, not the original  $*\ni$  which had switched places with the preceding consonant. In those cases where the initial consonant can itself constitute the full syllable, no prothetic vowel is needed for this purpose.

<sup>19</sup>Two sound changes are relevant here. The original \*/r/ of proto-Bade/Ngizim (perhaps proto-Chadic) was phonetically a "retroflex flap" as it still is in Ngizim (see Ladefoged [1964] for a phonetic description of the same sound in Hausa). In Bade/Ngizim (and probably proto-Chadic) this phoneme is realized as an alveolar tap or trill when followed by alveolar non-continuants (f,d,n) or lateral fricatives. In Gashua Bade the retroflex flap, but not the laveolar tap/trill has changed to | Thus, while Bade has èlvú 'sip' and Ngizim has [rèvú] with a retroflex flap initial, both languages have [r̃nú] 'fornicate' with syllabic alveolar trill.

In Ngizim where  $C_1$  is a sonorant, original  ${}^*C_1 \ni C_2 \dots$  has changed to give phonetic results similar to those in Bade. The cases in point can be summarized by the following ordered rules:

The main rule in (20) is part a. While the phonetic effects of (20a) in Ngizim are identical to those of Bade PROTHESIS, except for the non-syllabicity of nasals followed by homorganic voiced stops (cf. (20c)), I believe the process must be viewed in a different way. On p. 256 I argued that Bade had developed a new way to handle word initial sequences where the first two consonants could abut, viz. the consonants are allowed to abut and the impermissible initial cluster is avoided by adding a prothetic vowel. There is no evidence for such a process in Ngizim. Here, a high vowel has simply been deleted in  $\#C_1 \Rightarrow C_2$  where  $C_1$  could itself constitute a full syllable or, in the case of nasals followed by homorganic voiced stops, where it could combine with the following consonant to constitute a unit phoneme.

3.2.1. The influence of initial high tone. So far no mention of tone has been made with respect to Bade PROTHESIS. However, inspection of the illustrations in Table 1 will show that in all words where PROTHESIS has occurred, the word begins with low tone. A reasonable suggestion would be that the prothetic vowel is automatically given low tone. This hypothesis is disconfirmed in two ways: first all the Ngizim cognates

have initial low tone, making it likely that the words should all be reconstructed with initial low tone; second, and more important, are Bade examples such as the following, where PROTHESIS has not applied:

(21)	páji	'bran'	cf.	èpcàalàkáu	'the plant Calotropis procera'
	téba	'round cover'	cf.	èdbú	'establish'
	dégà	'platform'	cf.	èdgà	'arrow'
	ɗúkwàk	'udder'	cf.	èdkwái	'iron'
	kûvá	'chest'	cf.	ègvàa làkáu	'Acacia nilotica'
	k <b>úzì</b> yák	'swollen scrotum'	cf.	èksédù	'be familiar with'
	súgům	'planting hoe'	cf.	èzgèmú	'plant'
	sávùwà	'bee'	cf.	èz∨ú	'join'
	gúmà	'ten'	cf.	[èŋmá]	'thigh'
	lévùwà	'chaff'	cf.	èΙνú	'sip'
	wúdů	'knife'	cf.	ùutú	'go to meet'
	mésáakau	'tamarind'	cf.	m̀sèk	'husband'
	wúnyà	'girl'	cf.	ùunú	'spend the day'
	míyà	1001	cf.	m̀yá	'mouth'
	wíyàk	'vulva'	cf.	ùuyú	'hang'

The only relevant difference between the words in the left-hand column, where PROTHESIS has not applied, and those in the right-hand column, where it has, is the tone on the first syllable. A careful examination of the Bade nominal lexicon reveals that all words where PROTHESIS has applied have initial low tone and the large majority of those where PROTHESIS could potentially have applied but has not have initial high tone. I will return to the few exceptions to this statement in 3.2.3.

Nouns have fixed lexical tone so nouns can be categorically listed as having initial high or low tone. Underlying tone of verbs is not so obvious since tone is in part conditioned by verb aspect. However, it is a reconstructable feature of proto-Bade/Ngizim as well as a feature of the modern languages that verbs having \*CƏ as the initial syllable have a verbal noun with initial low tone. It is not at all clear that

The question which arises is why high tone has prevented PROTHESIS. A final explanation would require a more careful phonetic study than I was able to make, but in Schuh [1977b] I suggest that the extra amplitude associated with high tone was enough to prevent weakening of the  $\bullet$  separating  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  to the point where it could be lost. Since the  $\#C_1 \ni C_2$  ... structure was thus maintained, no prothetic vowel was needed.

3.2.2. Syllabification with longer sequences. The discussion above has concentrated on examples where Ngizim has CaCV ... and Bade has aCCV ... with the remainder of the word being the same, other things being equal. There are words with three or more consonants,  $C_1C_2C_3...$ , where both the sequence  $C_1C_2$  and the sequence  $C_2C_3$  are permissible. If  $C_2$  and  $C_3$ are allowed to abut, PROTHESIS would not be possible in Bade because PROTHESIS in a word of the structure C1 aC2C3... would form an impermissible three consonant cluster. On the other hand, if  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are allowed to abut through PROTHESIS, C2 and C3 will have to be separated by a , again to prevent a three consonant sequence, giving a word structure  $\partial C_1C_2\partial C_3$  .... With a number of exceptions, Bade has chosen the latter strategy so that words of the form accac ... in Bade correspond to words of the form COCC ... in Ngizim. 20 In words where C2 and C3 and  $C_2$  cannot abut, both languages have  $C \ni C C \ldots$ ; where  $C_1$  cannot abut with C2 nor C2 with C3, both languages have COCOC ... . Examples of all these combinations are given in Table 2.

 $<sup>^{20}</sup>$ This strategy of syllabification in Bade is consistent with the position into which  $\vartheta$  is inserted as illustrated in (10a), viz. between the second and third consonants rather than the first and second.

Table 2. Examples of syllabification in words with 3 or more consonants The left-hand column is Ngizim, the right-hand column is Bade.

 $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ , and  $C_3$  can all abut

dègzú	èdgèzú	(Ng) 'fuck'
		(Ba) 'copulate (animals)'
pèstú	èbzèkú	(Ng) 'split palm fronds'
		(Ba) 'today'
zùktú	àzgàt ú	'pierce'
ràptú	èlbètú	'open'
rèbgú	èlbègú	(Ng) 'destroy'
		(Ba) 'stove in'

'wake up'

(Ng) 'loose bark'

(Ng) 'pass by'

'sneak up on'

(Ba) 'narrowly miss'

 $\mathbf{C}_1$  and  $\mathbf{C}_2$  can abut,  $\mathbf{C}_2$  and  $\mathbf{C}_3$  cannot

gùjlàjlìr ùgjlàrgùjlár

(gùjlàjlú) ùgjlàjlú

bàntú

sèmdû

sèkùnú mèzèmú	àskùnú m̀zàmú	(Ba) 'lower back' 'increase' 'groan'
$\frac{1}{C_1}$ and $\frac{1}{C_2}$ cannot	$\vartheta$ lm $$ y $\mathring{u}$ abut, $C_2$ and $C_3$ can	'flood'
tàrkú vàrdá	tèlkú vèrdà	'orphan' 'first ripe heads of millet'

Neither C1 and C2 nor C2 and C3 can abut

sèmdû

bàntú

neroner of and o	2 1101 02 and 03	
(jlàbèrú)	t I à b à I ú	'split wood'
( ນັ້ນ ທ່າ	kèdùwú	'dry up'
dêmìyú		'guard'
gùg <b>ùyú</b>	No. 500 Apr 401	'shake (blanket, etc.)'

High tone on the initial syllable has prevented  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  from coming together in Bade just as illustrated in (21) for words of the structure  $C_1 \ni C_2 \lor \ldots$ . Thus, for words in Bade beginning with high tone, when  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  can abut they do; when they cannot abut they are separated by a high vowel, but always with a high vowel separating  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  as well. The examples in (22) are all from Bade.

(55)	C <sub>2</sub> and C <sub>3</sub> can abut		C <sub>2</sub> and C <sub>3</sub> cannot abut	
	l <b>á</b> gdà	'ladle'	cákúďák	'adze'
	đúksù	'the weed Mitracarpum scabrum'	dúkúmàk	'tweezers'
	s <b>é</b> gvà	'spur-winged goose'	kútérú	'puppy'
	gúskwàk	'worm'	mátlálàm	'cobra'
	kûzvú	'female slave'	wújálài	'trilling'
	[lêɣyá]	'small calabash'	sávìyák	'elephant snount fish'
	[céŋnà]	'molar'	lévùwà	'chaff'
	wûrjí	'scorpion'		
	wúrnàk	'burnt mush'		

There are very few words with four or more consecutive consonants where any two consecutive consonants could abut and where only short high vowels intervene. The only two examples, aside from a number of reduplicated forms (see section 3.2.3), that I have found in Bade are takpasú 'begin' and maskatú 'turn'. Words such as those in the first two sections of Table 2 suggest that the principle behind Bade PROTHESIS might be stated as in (23):

(23) "(1) If the first two consonants of a root form a permissible sequence and are not separated by a vowel other than a short high vowel, let those consonants abut and add prothetic ə;
(2) if no vowel follows C2, add epenthetic ə and proceed by grouping the next two consonants if possible."

Such a principle would predict \*àtkàpsú and \*msàktú. In fact, there are no words in the language which have been syllabified in this way

where the proto-form was \*CəCCəC ... .21 I have no formal explanation for why təkpəsú has not become \*atkəpsú, but if one considers the string of operations speakers would have had to go through to convert the former into the latter during the period when PROTHESIS was a change in progress, one can well imagine why this and the few other words like it would have resisted change. The change of words like \*ləptú 'open' to altatú also involves a fairly radical restructuring so it is not surprising that a fairly large proportion of the verbs and several nouns having three consonants where PROTHESIS and resyllabification could have taken place have also resisted the change, e.g. taktíú 'trace designs' \*atkatíú, laktú 'bring ruin' \*alkatú, dabdú 'sell' \*adbadú, [sənmúl 'plant \*azgəmú (this word has become azgəmú in Western Bade), kùdvú 'carry on back' \*atlfècí .22

In fact, there are very few words of three or more syllables which have undergone PROTHESIS even if it would have affected only the initial syllable. For long words the principle for deciding on clustering seems to be as in (24):

(24) "Find the first obligatory vowel, allow the two consonants preceding that vowel to abut if possible, and add a before them."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>The Bade words ugjlargujlar 'lower back' and ugzamtam 'marabou stork' have the structure accaccy ..., but in these words the reconstructed shape would be \*CaCaccy ..., not \*Caccacy ....

<sup>22</sup>I collected 24 verbs with three consonants, any two of which could abut and which were separated only by high vowels. Of these 24, 11 have the structure Cocco, 13 have occocu. An alternative explanation for these verbs not being restructured is a tonal one, viz. verbs with an initial syllable CVC must be reconstructed as having high tone verbal nouns. PROTHESIS seems to have taken place only sporadically with verbs other than those having low tone verbal nouns (see section 3.2.1). Among nouns I found only 8 clear examples with the relevant structural characteristics: bbzbkú 'today', bgzbgà 'herd', dùksí 'heavy', kbské 'easy', tlèfcí 'worn out mat', mbgbá 'monitor lizard', [mbyra] 'grey-headed sparrow', wùr'yí 'fart'. The word kbské is a Kanuri borrowing and borrowings have usually not undergone PROTHESIS (see sec-

"Obligatory vowel" here will be either a high vowel which separates two consonants which cannot abut or a "lexical" vowel, i.e. a mid or low vowel or a long high vowel, the position of which is not predictable. The principle in (24) almost works in general for the language but fails to predict the word shapes in the first two sections of Table 2, which encompass a fairly substantial number of words. In (25) are some examples of words syllabified according to (24). In column (a) the "obligatory vowel" follows  $C_2$  so that  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  abut and require the prothetic  $\Rightarrow$ . In column (b), the "obligatory vowel" follows  $C_3$ . Even though  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  could potentially abut in these words, they do not since by principle (24), it is  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  which must abut, requiring that a  $\Rightarrow$  be inserted between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . The obligatory vowel is underlined.

(25) a.	m̀s <u>è</u> sàawà	'the plant Guiera senegalensis'	b. mèdv <u>é</u> líyàk	'biting ant'
	ùgz <u>è</u> mtèm	'marabou stork'	bùgz <u>è</u> rá	'lying dead'
	ègv <u>àa</u> ∣àkáu	'Acacia nilotica'	kùt f <u>è</u> lú	'untie'
	èzv <u>à</u> vìyú	'wash grain'	cèkp <u>à</u> pú	'squat'
	ègb <u>à</u> kwàtú	'decay'	tlèkp <u>à</u> lú	'go mad'
	ŋg <u>à</u> rèmtú	'gallop'	t ègb <u>à</u> bèdú	'slosh out'

Note that principle (24) predicts takpasú no better than (23). In this word the first obligatory vowel is the final one and (24) would thus give the incorrect \*atkapsú.

3.2.3. True exceptions and morphologically conditioned exceptions to PROTHESIS. The environments where Bade PROTHESIS has taken place are governed by three essential factors: (1) the initial syllable of the word must bear low tone; (2)  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are not prevented from abutting by one of the factors listed in (18); (3) the principle of

tion 3.2.3); PROTHESIS in mègbá or [mèyrà] would give an initial mg... sequence, which otherwise does not exist in Bade or Ngizim. Not included among the nouns are those with initial syllabic nasal since in an undetermined number of words the nasal comes from syllabification of the nasal onset of a prenasalized consonant and hence is not a true example of a three consonantal word which has undergone PROTHESIS, e.g. ngúdì 'poor' > Kanuri ngúdì 'poor person'.

syllabification in (23) must not be overriden by that in (24), which applies mainly to words of three or more syllables. There are some true exceptions to PROTHESIS—words where no phonological or morphological factors predict that the word should not neve undergone PROTHESIS, e.g. dègèrìyà 'barb' (a type of fish), dèvàarák 'crownbird', gètél 'abandoned town site', gùtlémtlèm 'strong smell', dùgwú 'hear'. In the materials I collected, true exceptions such as these total only 10-15 as opposed to well over 200 words where PROTHESIS has applied. Besides these true exceptions, there are several classes of apparent exceptions which have resisted PROTHESIS for morphological or other reasons.

Relatively recent borrowed words have not been affected by PROTHESIS, e.g.

Two types of verbal nouns have not been affected by PROTHESIS. One type, illustrated in (27a), derives from verbs of the shape CaCV. These verbal nouns end in -i and the underlying /a/ of the initial syllable assimilates in height to this -i to become  $\vartheta$ . The verbs 'die' and 'know' have irregular verbal nouns of a similar structure and have not been affected by PROTHESIS, though interestingly the verbs have been. The second type of verbal noun, illustrated in (27b), is derived from some verbs of the structure CVCCu. These verbal nouns have the structure  $CV_1CV_2C$  where  $V_1$  is the vowel of the first syllable of the verb root and  $V_2$  is sometimes the same as  $V_1$ , sometimes a even where  $V_1$  is  $\vartheta$ .

b.	zègém	'planting'	<	[sອົກຫນ໌ໄ	'plant'
	tàkát l	'tracing'	<	tàkt lú	'trace'
	dègès	'copulation'	<	d <b>à</b> gzú	'copulate'
	lùwái (= èlwái)	'farming'	<	Tuuyú	'farm, hoe'
	(but cf. ugdáf)	'child on back'	<	kùdvú	'earry on back'

Next, statives, which are derived from verbs with a prefix  $d\theta$ -, have been preserved with initial  $d\theta$ - with all verbs.

Finally, reduplications have uniformly resisted restructuring to permit PROTHESIS.

To permit PROTHESIS these words would have to be totally restructured, e.g. \*àckàckú. Their failure to undergo PROTHESIS may be explained as well by resistance to this type of restructuring (cf. discussion of tàkpàsú, p. 275) as by their reduplicated structure.

# 4. Bade/Ngizim and Universal Principles of Syllabification

The discussion to this point has concentrated on noting sequences of segments which are possible or impossible and designating how such sequential restrictions are maintained by placement of vowels. In this section I hope to show how a single statement for possible syllable types in Bade/Ngizim, combined with certain hierarchies of segments, can unify what has been basically a list of restrictions.

The general principle restricting possible Bade/Ngizim syllable types can be stated as in (29):

(29) No syllable in Bade or Ngizim may have more than one consonant at either margin, i.e. the maximum syllable is CVC.

This automatically accounts for the impermissible sequences CCC, #CC, and CC#. In order to account for the permissibility or impermissibility of the sequences listed in (18), we must refer to some proposed universal hierarchies of consonant types and principles of syllabification.

Observations on the organization of phonological segments dating at least to Saussure and supported by a variety of phenomena in a number of languages point to hierarchies of consonantal "strength" along certain parameters (some of the linguists most recently concerned with this issue are Foley, Vennemann, and Hooper—see Hooper [1976:195 ff.] for references and discussion). The most frequently noted hierarchy is along a parameter called "sonority" or "openness". Cross-cutting this hierarchy are two further hierarchies, given in (30b) and (30c):

- - c. Point of articulation: labial > alveolar > velar
    (read > "is stronger than")

In addition to these hierarchies based on inherent characteristics of segments there are hierarchies of strength associated with position of a segment in a string of segments. Of interest here is the relatively greater strength of syllable initial position over syllable final position, evidenced by such phenomena as the frequency of neutralization or loss of syllable-final consonants as opposed to the relative infrequency or non-existence of such phenomena in syllable initial position. Positional strength correlates with inherent strength of segment types, so there is a rough hierarchy of suitability for initial and final positions in syllables [Hooper 1976:196]. Those segment types in descending order from left to right in (30a) are more "suitable" as syllable initial consonants, those ascending from right to left as

syllable final. This is seen, for example, from the fact that in many languages, syllable initial sequences such as tr, zy, etc. are possible, whereas rt, yz are rare if they exist at all. On the other hand, many languages allow only sonorant consonants in syllable final position, whereas few if any allow only obstruents in this position.

Languages show minor individual variations in the hierarchies in (30) and variations in the way syllabification is done, e.g. some languages have ambisyllabic consonants while others do not, in some languages morphological boundaries affect syllabification, etc. Nevertheless, there is a high degree of cross-language predictability of how strings of segments will be syllabified which follows from the observations above. The three following statements for Babe and Ngizim would have counterparts in many languages: (1) a weak segment can always come in direct sequence with a following strong one since syllabification will always be between the two segments, e.g. Ngizim tèr=kú 'orphan' because the sonorant r is weaker than the stop k (the symbol = represents syllable boundary); (2) a segment can usually come in direct sequence with one of relatively equal strength since syllabification will normally be between the two, e.g. Bade/ Ngizim áp=tà 'flour', but there is some variation with certain pairs of segments (see below); (3) a strong consonant cannot occur in direct sequence with a relatively weak one because syllabification would come at the beginning of the sequence, e.g. there could be no word \*təkru. This would be syllabified tə=kru, as such sequences invariably are in languages that allow them, producing an impermissible syllable of the shape CCV, disallowed in Bade/Ngizim by (29). Bade and Ngizim assure that such syllables will not occur by requiring that a vowel separate such sequences of consonants; words which have as their first two consonants a strong consonant followed by a weak one comprise the largest set of cases where PROTHESIS has not taken place in Bade.

With these observations in mind, let us consider in turn each of

the types of segment sequences listed in (18b-e):23

- obstruent + obstruent: Nearly all such sequences are possible, indicating that the strength differential between obstruents is not great. A stop may even be followed by a non-homorganic fricative, e.g. Ba àtfú 'enter'. But if the fricative is homorganic to the stop, i.e. if everything between the segments is equal except their relative position on the sonority hierarchy, then they cannot occur in sequence, e.g. Ba dèzí 'vein' (not \*èdzí). In (30b) glottalized stops are claimed to be weaker than non-glottalized. This accounts for the fact that PROTHESIS has never taken place in Bade words where the first two consonants are plain obstruent + glottalized stop. The relative weakness of glottalized stops is supported by independent evidence as well: Le Saout [1974] describes a variety of phenomena in some Kwa and Mande languages where glottalized sounds pattern with sonorants, not obstruents; in Hausa, glottalized k in some dialects is weakened to ? (classed as a glide in some frameworks), not to a corresponding obstruent; tonal phenomena in Bade are more easily described if glottalized sounds are classed with sonorants than with obstruents. Nonetheless, glottalized stops must not be radically weaker than plain obstruents since there is no restriction on other obstruents abutting with them in Ngizim, and word internal in Bade, the restriction is only sporadically observed (see (15) and discussion).

- <u>obstruent + sonorant</u>: Such sequences are impossible, except for /g/ + sonorant in Bade. Recall, however, that when this sequence occurs in Bade, /g/ changes to [w], [n], or [ $\gamma$ ] depending on what follows (see (19)), so that the phonetic form of the word will automatically be syllabified between /g/ and the next consonant.<sup>24</sup> The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>In (18a) sequences of identical consonants, i.e. geminate consonants, are excluded. This restriction is unrelated to questions of syllable structure. In the few words where geminates are found, syllabification is between the consonants.

 $<sup>^{24}</sup>$ This is assuming that the sound symbolized  $\gamma$  is classed as a sonorant rather than an obstruent. This is reasonable, considering the phonetic facts. The  $\gamma$  is very lightly articulated, approaching [h].

question is why /g/, an obstruent, should be allowed to abut with sonorants in the first place. The answer seems to be that /q/ is virtually the weakest obstruent in Bade (being velar, it is at the weakest point of articulation, and being voiced it is the weakest velar, since there is no glottalized velar). It therefore approaches soncrants in the strength hierarchy and with the slight phonetic adjustments which are made it can be brought down to equal strength with sonorants, hence calling for a syllable boundary between it and the following sonorant rather than before it. This borderline status of /q/ on the strength hierarchy also provides an explanation for why some words in Bade show variant pronunciations, e.g. nmá = qèmá 'thigh', and others do not allow /q/ to abut with a sonorant at all, e.g. gəná 'like, as', gulu 'jealously'. While the placement of syllable boundaries with most consonant sequences can be unequivocally determined, e.g. =trV but never \*t=rV, b=g but never \*=bg, the placement of syllable boundary with /q/ + sonorant is less firm. The result is that whether /q/ is allowed to abut with a following sonorant has been determined on a word by word basis.

- $\underline{\text{sonorant + obstruent}}$ : All such sequences are possible with sporadic lexical exceptions where m is followed by s or z (see below for discussion).

strength) and with other sonorants (liquids, which fall immediately below nasals in strength). For specific examples, see above, p.268.

In summary, we see that hierarchies of "strength" and principles of syllabification that have been proposed as possible universal features of language allow us to predict fairly accurately the types of consonants which may or may not occur in sequence in Bade and Ngizim, when combined with the statement of permissible syllable types given in (29). This means of predicting possible sequences of consonants in turn allows us to predict where the change termed PROTHESIS could occur in Bade.

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# INACCESSIBILITY AND DEMOTIONAL NOMINAL MARKING IN IRAQW\*

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This paper is a description of Iraqw syntax and a characterization of a particular nominal suffix which appears to signal syntactic inaccessibility to certain rules. It will be proposed that this suffix signals inaccessibility that is the result of a demotion in grammatical relation of the particular object NP's under consideration. That is, the suffix signals both relational demotion and a concomitant syntactic inaccessibility.

# 0. Introduction

The paper will begin with a short description of some basic aspects of Iraqw syntax relevant to this discussion. Then, more complicated two-object verb paradigms are discussed. After this, various syntactic rules will be shown to operate on certain object NP's, and the restrictions on these rules will be discussed. The paper concludes with a characterization of a certain nominal suffix which signals relational demotion and syntactic inaccessibility.

# 1. Background Information

Iraqw is spoken in Mbulu Region in Tanzania and has been tentatively classified as Southern Cushitic. Neutral word order is SOV. The verb may be marked for first person singular subject and, in some cases for masculine and feminine second and third person singular subject.

There are tonal distinctions for third singular masculine and feminine subject forms of the verb, but tone is not indicated here. Nouns have singular and plural forms, and some demonstrative elements are suffixes.

The outstanding feature of Iraqw syntax is the complicated system

<sup>\*</sup>I would like to thank the speakers of Iraqw whom I consulted during my research: Mr. Sulumo, Mr. Sulle, and Mr. Harri, all from Mbulu. Helpful comments from Mr. E.D. Elderkin and Mr.

of elements called "selectors" by Whiteley [1953]. These usually appear pre-verbally (under conditions to be discussed) and may mark person, number, gender, and case of various verbal arguments, as well as such diverse features as Relative Clause Formation (REL), Passive (PSV), tense, mood, Question (Q) Formation, and others. In the examples of this paper, the selectors (SLTR's) will fall into two types: (a) those appearing after the subject but before the first object and (b) those appearing after the first object. Schematically then, the two types are:

- (a) Subject SLTR Object Verb
- (b) Subject Object SLTR Verb

Examples of the two types are given below:

- (1) a. ?anin ?a ?inos lohis
  lsg SLTR,pres 3sg carry
  'I am carrying her'
  - b. ?anin ?inos ?a<sup>2</sup> lohis lsg 3sg SLTR,fut carry 'I will carry her'

These examples show that the word order type is relevant for the determination of Tense, since the SLTR ?a appears in both sentences. Consider these additional examples showing the function of the SLTR's (or part of a SLTR) in masculine/feminine agreement:

c. ?anin ?inos ?a-na lohis
 lsg 3sg SLTR-past carry
'I carried her'

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See Bradfield [1977] for a list of the features of the SLTR's.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Whiteley [1953] lists **?an** for the future SLTR, but I did not encounter this item in my research.

- d. ?anin hawata ?u lohis
   lsg man SLTR carry
  'I will carry the/a man'
- e. ?anin hawata ?u--na lohis
  lsg man SLTR-past carry
  'I carried the/a man'

These examples lead to the following generalizations applicable to the pattern of SLTR agreement in this paper:

"The SLTR agrees in gender and number with the NP immediately preceding."

It should also be pointed out that the SLTR varies with respect to the subject as well (even when absent):

- f. hawata Sameni ga--na lohis man woman SLTR-past carry 'the man carried the/a woman'
- g. hawata naSay gu--na lohis
   man child SLTR-past carry
  'the man carried the/a child'

These examples show SLTR agreement with the subject hawata and with the feminine and masculine objects Sameni and naSay. Thus, SLTR's agree with subjects, and will agree with objects when the SLTR's directly precede said objects.

This paper will be primarily concerned with an investigation of a nominal suffixal morpheme which I will call an "inaccessibility marker" (IM). In my reading of the published accounts of Iraqw, I can find no reference to this element, nor to its syntactic function. Its basic shape is probably /-(C)i/ with non-high tone, and the phonetic form of the consonant is probably determined by the preceding stem-final segment, but I am not at this time prepared to state exact phonological details. But the impact of this element on the syntax of the language is considerable. It will be shown that any non-subject NP marked with the IM may not be Topicalized, Passivized, Relativized,

 $<sup>^3{\</sup>rm This}$  element is not to be confused with a sometimes segmentally identical demonstrative (DEM) morpheme, also at times /-Ci/, but with distinctly high tone.

or WH-Questioned; nor may this IM-marked NP appear in a position to govern SLTR agreement. It appears that prepositional objects and underlyingly direct objects may, under appropriate conditions, be suffixed with this element. In later sections we shall return to discuss the relevance of this for the notion of "demotion" in Relational Grammar.

# 2. Word-Order Permutations and the IM

The following examples illustrate the various permutations in types (a) and (b) word order, in sentences with the verbs allowing more than one object complement.

barwito?o-r hanmis4 (2) a. ?anin ?a dir SLTR letter-DEM give man lsg 'I am giving the letter to the/a man' barwito?o-r hawat--i ?anin ?a hanmis lsg SLTR letter-DEM man--IM give barwito?o-r man-IM letter-DEM 'I am giving the letter to the/a man' ?anin ?a barwito?o--ri ⊨awat-u hanis man-DEM letter-IM lsg SLTR give barwito?o-ri man-DEM 'I am giving the man the/a letter'

Notice that once the preposition dir is deleted, either hawat- or barwito?o- must appear with the IM. Sentences without such IM's are ungrammatical. Note that either unmarked or IM-marked NP's may appear immediately before the verb in these type (a) sentences.

In the following type (b) sentences involving the future tense, the SLTR agrees with the object, but as we shall see, with only one object:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>The element hanmis varies with hanis 'give' in that the former appears in present tense, while the latter in past and future examples. Also attested is harmis for the same item, indicating some dialectal variation.

- (3) a. Yanin barwito?o ?a hanis dir hawata lsg letter SLTR give to man 'I will give the/a letter to the/a man'
  - b. ?anin barwito?o ?a hawati-i hanis lsg letter SLTR man-IM give 'I will give the/a letter to the/a man'
  - c. ?anin hawata ?u barwito?o--ri hanis
    lsg man SLTR letter-IM give
    'I will give the/a man the/a letter'

Compare the SLTR's in (3b) and (3c). In the former, the SLTR agrees with the feminine barwito?o, while in the latter, the SLTR is masculine in agreement with hawata. Again, sentences without IM's would be ungrammatical, as are any of the following logically possible permutations:

- d. \*?anin barwito?o-ri ?a hawata hanis lsg letter-IM SLTR man give
- e. \*?anin hawat--i ?u barwito?o hanis lsg man-IM SLTR letter give

These examples illustrate that the SLTR may never agree with an IM-marked NP. Since, as has already been pointed out, SLTR agreement is always with the immediately preceding NP, it follows that an IM-marked NP may never be followed by a SLTR. SLTR agreement will always be with NP's without the IM.

Further examples involve instrumental objects:

- (4) a. ?anin na ay ?u mux ?ar hara lsg child SLTR beat with stick 'I will beat the/a child with the/a stick'
  - b. ?anin nasay ?u hart-ar mux
    lsg child SLTR stick-IM,instr beat
    'I will beat the/a child with the/a stick'

c. ?anin hara ?a nasa--r mux
lsg stick SLTR child-IM,instr beat
'I will beat with the/a stick the/a child'

Note that SLTR agreement is with na ay in (4a-b), but with hara in (4c). Furthermore, the IM marker in these examples is phonologically similar to the instrumental preposition ?ar. It would appear that in these examples, the marker which I have labelled "IM,instr" has indeed a double function: it serves to mark the feature of instrumentality, and, as we shall see, behaves exactly like the /Ci/ IM, in that nouns marked with either of these elements will have similar accessibility restrictions.

Another prepositional expression involving the elements kitangw ... wa ale meaning 'on ... behalf of' does not show an alternation with the IM:

(5) Hawata dasi ga mux kitangw Sameni--r wa ale man girl SLTR beat on woman-DEM behalf 'the man will beat the girl on behalf of the woman'

The examples of this section show the basic word order and SLTR agreement patterns with verbs having more than one object and the effects of a promotion rule which might loosely be called a dative movement rule, but more properly should be labelled a non-direct-object movement rule. A wider range of word-order permutations are possible in the type (a) word order examples (cf. (2a-3)) than in type (b) examples (cf. above), but this is due to the fact that type (b) structures involve SLTR agreement with objects, while type (a) never does. Type (b) examples, or sentences presumed to be derived from type (b) structures with SLTR agreement for underlying or derived objects, will be the focus of the remainder of this paper.

# 3. Inaccessibility Marker and Syntactic Rules

In the following examples, it will be useful to distinguish among a number of types of objects, as these are victims of various rules. The objects examined here will be semantic direct, indirect (benefactive or dative) and instrumental, as well as the prepositional

'on X's behalf' structure seen above in (5). We will attempt to have these objects become victims of the rules of PSV, TOP, WH-Q, and REL.

- 3.1. One-object verbs. We shall begin by using simple transitive verbs, i.e. verbs with only one object. Consider the following:
- (6) a. hawata kuna mux ne baba man PSV,SLTR beat by father 'the man was beaten by father'
  - b. dasi kana mux ne baba girl PSV,SLTR beat by father 'the girl was beaten by father'
- (7) a. nasay, hawata gu mux child man SITR beat 'the child, the man will beat'
  - b. dasi, hawata ga mux girl man SLTR beat 'the girl, the man will beat'
- (8) ?anin barwito?o-r [kun ta go?in] ?ana ?oh lsg letter-DEM [2sg REL,SLTR write] SLTR hold 'I held the letter which you wrote'
- (9) a. Hawata gar ?a mux man WH SLTR beat 'what did the man beat?'
  - b. hawata hee ?a mux man WH SLTR beat 'whom did the man beat?'

In examples (6-7), the SLTR's agree with the fronted noun. In (8-9), the SLTR's are invariable for these objects. The examples have been kept simple for the purposes of the discussion, but it should be pointed out that there are numerous additional complications which are beyond the scope of this paper and hence not mentioned. These do not, however, affect the point of the discussion.

3.2. More-than-one object verbs. We are now in a position to examine

more complicated examples with verbs taking more than one object. We shall be particularly interested in the behavior of those nouns suffixed with the IM in the examples below.

- 3.2.1. <u>Passives</u>. Let us first examine some PSV examples. For the underlying constructions of SUBJ-OBJ-DATIVE/BENEFACTIVE-VERB, we find that the OBJ, the Dative, or the Benefactive may be passivized:<sup>5</sup>
- (10) a. muru\aima kuna dasi--ri hanis ne \ameni food PSV,SLTR girl-IM give by woman 'food was given to the/a girl by the/a woman'
  - b. dasi kana murusaima---ri hanis ne sameni girl PSV,SLTR food-IM give by woman 'the/a girl was given food by the/a woman'
- (11) a. murusaima kuna dasi--ri huurin ne sameni food PSV,SLTR girl-IM cook by woman 'food was cooked for the/a girl by the/a woman'
- b. dasi kana muruSaima---ri huurin ne Sameni girl PSV,SLTR food--IM cook· by woman 'the/a girl was cooked food for by the/a woman'

However, if we attempt to passivize the object NP's with IM's, the sentences are ungrammatical. Consider the presumably related (10-11c) examples below:

- (10) c. \*dasi-ri kana muru\laima(---ri) hanis ne \lambda ameni girl-IM PSV,SLTR food(---IM) give by woman

  \*muru\laima--ri kuna casi(---ri) hanis ne \lambda ameni food--IM PSV,SLTR girl(-IM) give by woman
- (11) c. \*dasi--ri kana murusaima(---ri) huurin ne sameni girl-IM PSV,SLTR food(--IM) cook by woman \*murusaima--ri kuna dasi(--ri) huurin ne sameni food-IM PSV,SLTR girl(--IM) cook by woman

The parenthesized IM's are included in the above examples to show that

 $<sup>^5\</sup>mathrm{Future}$  researchers checking these data should be very careful to distinguish the IM morphemes from the Demonstratives mentioned in footnote 3.

ungrammaticality results whether or not the second NP is IM-marked.

Passivizing an instrumental object or the direct object is possible:

- (12) a. hara kana nasa--r mux ne sameni stick PSV,SLTR child-IM beat by woman 'the stick was used to beat the child by the woman'
  - b. na\`ay kuna hara--r mux ne \`ameni child PSV,SLTR stick-IM beat by woman 'the child was beaten with a stick by a woman'

But again, if we were to attempt to passivize either object NP marked with the IM, the sentences are ungrammatical:

na Γay(/--r) (12) c. \*hara--r kana mux ne Sameni stick-IM PSV,SLTR child(--IM) beat Ъу woman \*naʕa---r kuna hara(---r) ne ſameni mux child-IM PSV,SLTR stick(--IM) beat by woman

In all of the preceding examples, SLTR agreement with particular derived subject NP's is correct, and cannot be the cause of ungrammaticality when it occurs. Clearly, then the presence of the IM's in (10c, 11c, 12c) is the crucial factor.

It appears that prepositional objects may not be directly passivized. Thus, from a structure like the following, the prepositional object is moved, but the result is ungrammatical:

/Sameni (SUBJ)--muruSaima (OBJ)-- hanis (V) dir (PREP) (13)dasi / woman food give to girl \*dasi kana muruʕaima(---ri) hanis dir ----os ne Sameni girl PSV.SLTR food(--IM) give to(--3sgPRO) by woman

Iraqw does not allow preposition-stranding, which could be the cause of the ungrammaticality. To allow for this, a pronominal suffix -os is added to the preposition dir in parentheses, but the result was unanimously judged as extremely clumsy. We conclude then that passivization may not apply to prepositional objects, unless these objects are promoted to some other (as yet undefined) status prior to PSV.

To summarize, direct and indirect objects and instrumental objects may be passivized, but prepositional objects and IM-marked objects may not

- 3.2.2. <u>Topicalization</u>. The rule of TOP is another rule which is sensitive to the presence of an IM on the victim object NP's. This rule can move all objects *except* those marked with IM's:
- (14) a. nasay, sameni guna barwito?o-ri hanis child woman SLTR letter-IM give 'the child, the/a woman gave the/a letter to'
  - b. nasay, sameni barwito?o gana hanis dir---os child woman letter SLTR give to-3sgPRO 'the child, the/a woman gave the/a letter to her'
  - c. barwito?o, Sameni gana ?inos--i<sup>6</sup> hanis letter woman SLTR 3sgPRO-IM give 'the letter, the/a woman gave to him'
- (15) a. kuŋ, ʕameni ʔuna muruʕaima--ri huurin
  2sg,M woman SLTR food-IM cook
  'you, the/a woman cooked food for'
  - b. muruSaima, Sameni jina kuj-gi huurin food woman SLTR 2sgM--IM cook 'food, the/a woman cooked for you'
- (16) a. naʕay, ?aniŋ ?u hara-r mux child lsg SLTR stick-IM beat 'the child, I will beat with the/a stick'
  - b. mara, ?anin ?a mara--r mux stick lsg SLTR child-IM beat 'the stick, I will beat the/a child with'
- (17) a. dasi, hawata ga mux kitan Sameni wa ale girl man SLTR beat behalf woman behalf of 'the girl, the/a man will beat on behalf of the/a woman'

 $<sup>^6\</sup>mathrm{The}$  IM-suffixed form for 'child' is in fact na%a-y , which is too similar to the non-IM-suffixed form to be an effective example. Therefore I have substituted the IM-marked form for 'him', ?inos--i , which very clearly alternates with the non-suffixed form ?inos .

(17) b. Yameni, hawata dasi ga mux kitan--os wa ale woman man girl SLTR beat behalf-3sgPRO behalf of 'the woman, the/a man will beat the/a girl on behalf of her'

If in examples (14-17) an IM were to appear on the topicalized NP, the sentences would be ungrammatical. Thus, it appears that all types of objects may be topicalized, but no objects with the IM may undergo this rule.

- 3.2.3. <u>Relativization</u>. Relativization, too, is sensitive to the appearance of IM's on objects. Object NP's may be relativized as in the following:
- (18) a. ?anin Sameni--r [na muruSaima-ri hanis] ?ana ?oh
  lsg woman-DEM [REL,SLTR food-IM give] SLTR hold
  'I held the woman whom I gave food to'
  - b. ?anin muruSaima--r [na Sameni---ri hanis] ?una ?oh lsg food--DEM [REL,SLTR woman-IM give] SLTR hold 'I held the food which I gave to the/a woman'
- (19) a. ?anin hara [Sameni ?a garma---r mux] ?ana ?oh
  lsg stick woman SLTR boy-IM beat SLTR hold
  'I held the stick which the/a woman will beat the/a boy with'
  - b. ?anin garm--o [Sameni ?i hara---r mux] ?una ?oh lsg boy-DEM woman SLTR stick--IM beat] SLTR hold 'I held the boy whom the/a woman will beat with the/a stick'
- (20) Panin Sameni-r Hawata dasi ga mux kitan--os wa ale lsg woman-DEM man girl SLTR beat behalf-3sgPRO behalf of land ?oh SLTR hold 'I held the woman on whose behalf the/a man will beat the/a girl'

But once again, if we were to attempt to relativize an object NP which was marked with the IM, the results would be ungrammatical. Thus, Relativization is sensitive to whether or not object NP's are suffixed by the IM.

3.2.4. WH-questions. A fourth rule which is sensitive to the presence

of IM's is WH-Q Formation.<sup>7</sup> All objects can be questioned as in the following:

- (21) a. ?anin gar na hawat---i hani:

  lsg WH SLTR man-IM give
  'what did I give to the/a man?'
  - b. ?anin hee na muruSaima--ri hanis lsg WH SLTR food-IM give 'whom did I give food to?'
- (22) a. ?anin gar na garma---r mux

  lsg WH SLTR boy--IM beat
  'what did I beat the/a boy with?'
  - b. ?anin hee na hara---r mux lsg WH SLTR stick--IM beat 'whom did I beat with the/a stick?'
- (23) hawata dasi ga mux kitan hee
  man girl SLTR beat behalf WH
  'the/a man will beat the/a girl on behalf of whom?'

But if we attempt to question an object NP with an IM, the results are ungrammatical. One example is given, similar to (21a-b):

- (21) c. \*?anin gar(---i) na hawata hanis lsg WH(--IM) SLTR man give
  - d. \*?aniŋ hee(---i) na muruʕaima hanis lsg WH(--IM) SLTR food give
- 3.2.5. <u>Summary</u>. By now the point is clear that most objects are accessible to the rules of PSV,TOP,REL, and WH-Q, whereas object NP's of any underlying relation surfacing with the IM marker must not be victims of these rules.

# 4. Discussion

The various types of object seem to divide themselves into

 $<sup>^{7}</sup>$ WH-Q Formation also involves a relativization strategy like the following: thing/person REL SUBJ (OBJ) VERB is WH. Since this essentially duplicates the REL data, it is not included here.

several groups in Iraqw in terms of morphology and syntactic behavior. The first group, let us call them Unmarked Objects, may in type (b) structures appear directly after the subject, govern SLTR agreement (cf. sentences (3-4)), and may be victims of the syntactic rules of PSV,TOP,REL, and Wh-Q.

A second group would be Prepositional Object NP's. These may not appear directly after the subject, do not trigger SLTR agreement, and may appear after the verb. These elements may be victims of all of the syntactic rules described above except PSV.

The third group of objects are those marked with IM's. Recall that we are restricting our discussion to type (b) structures. IMmarked Objects may not appear directly after the subject, do not and must not trigger SLTR agreement, and may not be victims of any of the syntactic rules discussed above.

Thus, we have a sliding scale of object types, which we may summarize as in the following table:

				im of
	after subject	SLTR agreement	PSV TO	REL,WH-Q
Unmarked	yes	yes	yes	yes
Prepositional	no	no	no	yes
IM-Suffixed	no	no	no	no

I would now like to discuss an analysis of this data with an approach based on Relational Grammar. It has long been noted that relational (syntactic) promotion, accessibility to syntactic rules, and focus are inter-related features, and the correlation has been reasonably well established. What is being proposed here for Iraqw is that there is a particular morpheme, the IM suffix, which is transformationally attached to those object NP's which have been relationally demoted. 8 Coupled with relational demotion is syntactic inaccessibility for that relation,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Cf. Dalgish [1976] and Dalgish and Sheintuch [1977] for a discussion of transformational verbal marking when Locative Objects have gone "up" the Relational Hierarchy.

and a corresponding inability to focus on that item. Within our hierarchy of Object types, Unmarked Objects are at the top of the scale, IM-marked Objects at the botton, and Prepositional Objects somewhere in between.

Let us consider some concrete examples within this Relational-Demotional approach. Assuming that alternations of object types as in (3a-c) and (4a-c) are related, we can characterize these relations in terms of Relational promotion and demotion. Consider examples in which certain Prepositional Objects (those with dir and 7ar as the prepositions) may become Unmarked Objects:

- (3) a. ?anin barwito?o ?a hanis dir hawata lsg letter SLTR give to man 'I will give the/a letter to the/a man'
- (3) c. ?anin hawata ?u barwito?o--ri hanis ls@ man SLTR letter--IM give 'I will give the/a man the/a letter'

In (3c), the Unmarked Object hawata, derived from the Prepositional Object dir hawata in (3a), has been promoted and appears after the subject, governs SLTR agreement, and may be the victim of PSV, TOP, REL, and WH-Q. These are properties that as a Prepositional Object it did not possess. The promotion of the Prepositional Object to Unmarked Object status will result in the demotion by usurpation of the pre-

accessible to syntactic rules and consequently "out of focus".

A case in which only demotion takes place is illustrated by the following sentences:

vious Unmarked Object, in these cases, barwito?o, which then becomes transformationally suffixed by the IM. As a demoted NP, it is less

- (3) a. ?anin barwito?o ?a hanis dir hawata lsg letter SLTR give to man 'I will give the/a letter to the/a man'
- (3) b. ?anin barwito?o ?a hawat---i hanis lsg letter SLTR man--IM give 'I will give the/a letter to the/a man'

In (3a), the Prepositional Object hawata may be Topicalized, Relativized, WH-Questioned, but may not be Passivized or trigger SLTR agreement. But if hawata is moved to the left of the verb, it loses its Prepositional Object status, and may not be the victim of any of these syntactic processes. The IM-morpheme, it is claimed, signals this Relational demotion. Examples like these show that it is possible for Relational demotion to take place without necessarily involving usurpation in promotion processes (cf. Dalgish [1977] for evidence from Dho-Luo indicating essentially similar findings).

To summarize, then, the relational demotion undergone by either the (underlyingly) Unmarked Object or the Prepositional Object NP is signalled by the appearance of the IM morpheme. This analysis can easily be extended to other examples in this paper. This Relational account of the syntax of object NP's in Iraqw allows us to state quite simply the conditions under which object NP's are suffixed by the IM morpheme, namely, whenever an object undergoes a Relational demotion. We may view the restricted syntactic behavior (inaccessibility) of such suffixed NP's as a consequence of this demotion.

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# PAPERS FROM THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN LINGUISTICS

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The following papers were presented in the Working Group on Tone at the Eighth Conference on African Linguistics.

### GRAMMATICAL TONE NEUTRALIZATION IN KINYARWANDA\*

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# 1. Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to show an area of grammar that the existing model of generative grammar cannot account for without recourse to complicated ad hoc rules. The surface phonetic form of the tones is unpredictable, and furthermore an adequate representation of the underlying structure of these tones seems difficult to find. The unpredictability of the output structure is due to the ambivalent nature of tone, which in Kinyarwanda and in other Bantu languages as well, can be (a) a feature on the syllable as well as (b) a syntactic morpheme.

To illustrate this, I will limit the analysis to the verb morphology. Kinyarwanda, like other Bantu languages, is agglutinative. For instance, tense markers, subject pronouns (agreement), object pronouns (clitics), case markers (benefactive, instrumental, locative...), voice (passive, middle), and aspect are morphemes affixed to the verb as illustrated in (1):

This language has two phonological tones, high (H) and low (L). Vowels are either short (V) or long (VV). Phonetically, short vowels appear as either H ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ), L ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ) or F (=falling)( $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ ). Long vowels surface as either LL ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ); HH ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ); LH ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ) or LF ( $\dot{\mathbf{v}}\dot{\mathbf{v}}$ ). Low tone will not be marked again in this paper. For a detailed discussion, see Kimenyi [1976]. In the penultimate position of the infinitival form, the sequence HH is not attested because of the existence of a tone anticipation rule in this lan-

<sup>\*</sup>I have received valuable comments on the early version of this paper from Baruch Elimelech and Larry Hyman.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ The vowel a is always deleted if it precedes a morpheme beginning with another vowel.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>A consonant is always inserted between a consonant and a glide: the epenthetic consonant takes the articulatory features of the glide and agrees in voicing, nasality and spirantization with the preceding consonant (for detail, see Kimenyi [1977a]).

guage. The final vowel -a, which comes after the verb stem, always carries L tone. The F tone is underlyingly H, and all Hs derive from the next syllable on the right. A F does not surface on the onset of a long vowel, nor in word-initial position. Anticipation is blocked if the H is on the coda of a long vowel. These rules are formalized in (2) and illustrated in (3):

```
2)
                                        'man'
3)
       /umu + gabo/
                         umuqabo
                         ikigega
                                        'storehouse'
       /iki + gega/
                         umugórê
                                        'woman, wife'
       /umu + gore/
       /aka + masú/
                         akamá∫û
                                        'trap'
       / \dot{u} + no/
                         únô
                                        'this one'
       / bá + no/
                         bâno
                                        'these ones'
                         úmŋáana<sup>2</sup>
       /umu + áana/
                                        'child'
                         úkwéezi
       /uku + éezi/
                                        'moon, month'
       /umu + éendá/
                         úmnéénda
                                        'debt'
       /iki + áapá/
                         íkáápa<sup>l</sup>
                                        'traffic signal'
       /umu + aámi/
                         umnaâmi<sup>2</sup>
                                        'king'
                         umneênge<sup>2</sup>
       /umu + eénge/
                                        'hole'
```

In the remainder of the paper we will see instances in which the rules given in (2) apply. But in many more cases, it will be shown that the phonetic tones of the verb forms are not predictable, since the underlying tones of the same morpheme seem to differ in some tenses. To make the presentation clear and convincing, I will give examples of monosyllabic verbs since in this language each infinitival verb form can have only one lexical high tone, no matter how many syllables it happens to have—the choice of monosyllabic examples does not mitigate the force of our argument. Since vowel length is contrastive, the monosyllabic verbs under investigation are either of the shape -CVC- or -CVVC-. Therefore we may expect two types of tones to occur in each: -CVC stems will appear as either -CVC- or -CVC-, whereas the phonological tone of -CVVC- is -CVVC- or -CVVC-. The verb -kór- 'work, do', will be used for the -CVC- stem, -kin- 'play' for -CVC-, -kúund- 'like, love' for -CVVC- and -geend- 'go, leave' for -CVVC-.

As indicated in (1), the finite verb has as obligatory morphemes the subject agreement, the tense and the aspect markers. Optional morphemes that appear on the finite verb are (i) ni- and the negative marker for independent clauses, nti-; (ii) the negative marker for subordinate clauses -ta-, which comes after the subject agreement; (iii) the object clitics, of which there can be a maximum of four, appearing between the tense marker and the verb stem; (iv) the morpheme -na- 'also', which appears between the tense marker and the object clitics; (v) the extensions which come after the verb stem; and (vi) the locative suffixes, just after the aspect marker. The order of these morphemes is given below:

Neg and neg are exclusive. The aspect markers are -a(ga) imperfective, and  $-(V)ye^{-2}$  perfective. The locative morphemes are -mo and -ho. The morphemes that appear in the tense slot are the following:

5)	-ra-	present/near future	-raka-	hortative <sub>1</sub>
	-zaa-	future	-ooka-	hortative <sub>2</sub>
	-aa <sub>l</sub> -	near past	-aa <sub>2</sub> -	conditional;
	-aara-	remote past	-ii-	negative imperative
	-rak <sup>y</sup> aa-	still	-ø₁-	habitual
	-ka <b>-</b>	narrative/consective	-ø <sub>2</sub> -	participial
			-aa <sub>3</sub> -	${\tt conditional}_2$

# 2. Tone Realization of Simple Tenses

In Table 1, the uses of these tenses with the four types of verbs are illustrated. Only one subject agreement marker, ba-, will be used in the paper for clarity of exposition. On the right are given the phonetic realizations.

These tenses will be grouped into different classes because of the effect they produce on the underlying tones of the verb stems. The tenses that keep the lexical tones of the verb and let the tone rules given in (2) apply, such as the -ra-, -aa-, -ka-, and -rak aa- tenses, will be called the <u>lexical tone keeping</u> tenses; the others will be labelled the <u>lexical tone neutralizing</u> tenses because they seem to give the same tone to all verbs, regardless of their underlying tones.

Group two tenses are in turn subclassified into 4 categories: (i) tenses that lower the verb stem tone (e.g. -zaa-, -raka-, and  $-\emptyset$ -, the future, hortative and habitual formatives); (ii) tenses that lower the stem tone but put a H on the syllable preceding it (e.g.  $-\emptyset$ - and -ooka-, the participial and hortative markers); (iii) tenses that put a H on the stem, namely remote past -aara-; and finally (iv) the tenses that put H on the last syllable of the finite verb: -aa- and -ii-, from the if clause of conditionals and negative imperatives respectively.

The imperative tones are classified in group 2(i) also, because they lower the whole verb:

6) <u>Imperative</u>		Verb Stem	asp	Phonetic realization	Gloss
		-kór-	-a	kora	'work'
		-kin-	<b>-</b> a	kina	'play'
		-kúund-	<b>-</b> a	kuunda	'like'
		-geend-	<b>-</b> a	geenda	'go'

The infinitive is classified among the lexical tone keeping morphemes:

			Tab.	le 1. Tone	realizatio	n of	' simple te	enses
a.	ba-ra	-work-a -play- -like-	H L HL LL	barákôra barakina barákúunda barageenda		· .	ba-zaa <sup>4</sup>	-work- a -play- -like-
ъ.	ba-aal	nt-go -imperfwork-ye -play-	H H	baákôze baakinne		;.	ba-raka <sup>3</sup>	e -go -imp -work-a -play-

bagákôra

bagakina

baákôra

baakina

baákúunda

baageenda

bagákúunda

bakageenda

barák<sup>y</sup>áákôra

barák<sup>y</sup>áakina

barák<sup>y</sup>áákúunda

barák y áageenda

less initial consonant (Dahl's law). For detailed discussion on this, see Kimenyi [1976b].

h.

<sup>3</sup>The morphemes /ku-, -raka-, -ka-, -ki-,-ta-/ are voiced if they occur before a stem with a voice-

<sup>4</sup>The future -zaa- tense can also be combined with the consecutive -ka- tense, or the condi-

work

{play }'

ba-Øı

ba-Ø2

ba-ooka<sup>3</sup>

baázáákôra

baázáakina

baázáákúunda

baázáageenda

baákûunze -likebaageenze they-nr.past-go -perfect LL

-work-a

-play-

-like-

-play-

-like-

-work-a

-play-

-like-

-go -imperf.

-go -imperf.

qeenda

bakazaa{kina } 'and then they will

they-consec.-go -imperf.

ba-rakyaa -work-a

tional -aa-, as shown below:

ba-ka<sup>3,4</sup>

thev-still

ba-aa4

they-cond

a.

c.

d.

e.

-like-

-work-a

-play-

-like-

-work-a

-play-

-like-

-work-a

-play-

-like-

'if they will

they-habit. -go -imperf.

they-partic.-go -imperf.

they-hort. 2 -go -imperf.

they-hort. 1 -go -imperf. LL

-imperf. LL

bazaakuunda bazaageenda

HL

LL

LL

LL

baragakora

bazaakora bazaakina

baragakina

bakora

bakina

bakuunda

bageenda

bâkora

bâkina

bâkuunda

bâgeenda

boógâkora

boógâkina

work

{play | like | l

go

boógâkuunda

boókâgeenda

baragakuunda

barakageenda

Table 1. Tone realization of simple tenses, cont.

k.	ba <b>-</b> aara	-work-y e -play-		baârákôze baârákînne	m			-work-a -play-		H biikórâ L biikínâ
		-like-		baârákúunze				-like-		HL biikuúndâ
	they-rm.pas	t-go -perfect	LL	baârágéenze				-go -im	perf	LL biigeéndâ
		_			11 —		sses:		_	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
1.	ba-aa	-work-a	H	baakórâ	, ,		'they V'		1.	'they will V'
		-play-	L	baakinâ			'they V-ed'		g.	'may they V'
		-like-		baakuundâ	c		'and then they	V-ed'	h.	'they V habitually'
	they-cond.	-go -imperf.	LL	baageéndâ	d	. •	'they are still	L V-ing'	i.	'them V-ing'
							'they would V'		j.	'may they V'
			•		∐k	:	=b. 1. 'if they	v V-ed'	in.	'they shouldn't V'

	Table 2. <u>Doubt</u>								
a.	- ba-ra <sup>5</sup> -work-a -play- -like- doubt-they-present-go -imperf.	bâkora bâkina bâkuunda bâgeenda	d ba-aal -work-ye báákôze -play- báakinne -like- báákúunze doubt-they-nr.past-go -perfect báageenze						
	de do do diej present -go imper.	bagoonaa	Bo Police   Page   Page						
ъ.	- ba-Ø <sub>1</sub> -work-a -play- -like-	bâkora bâkina bâkuunda	e. – ba-aara –work-ye báarákôze -play- báarákînne -like- báarákúunze						
	doubt-they-habitgo -imperf.	bâgeenda	doubt-they-rem.pst-go -perfect báarágéenze						
с.	- ba-zaa <sup>6</sup> -work-a -play- -like- doubt-they-future -go -imperf.	bâzaakora bâzaakina bâzaakuunda bâzaageenda	Glosses:  a. 'are they V-ing?' d. 'did they V?' b. 'do they V?' e. 'did they V?' c. 'will they V?'						

<sup>6</sup>There is another way to express this, namely:

7)	Infinitive	Verb Stem	asp	Phonetic	realization
	ku-	-kór-	<b>-</b> a	gukôra	'to work'
		-kin-			'to play'
		-kúund		gúkúunda	'to like'
		-geend-		kugeenda	'to go'

How can we account for the tone rules of these tenses in a unified way? The best way to do this is to posit two types of tones,  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .  $T_1$  is the feature on the syllable or the lexical tone, whereas  $T_2$  is the morphological tone. As has been observed elsewhere [Kimenyi 1976²], lexical tones are characterized by a binary feature, <code>†High</code>, since L tones don't play any role in the tone rule formulation of lexical tones. Note, however, that in the case of morphological tones, low tones are very significant. For this reason, morphological tones,  $T_2$ , will be classified into two types of tones,  $\alpha T_2$  and  $\beta T_2$ .  $\alpha T_2$  tones are the ones that are toneless and therefore let the tone anticipation rule apply if its structural description is met.  $\beta T_2$  tones are those morphological tones that neutralize the lexical tones.  $\alpha T_2$  are thus equivalent to lexical L tones, since they allow the tone anticipation rule to apply.  $\beta T_2$  tones are also realized as either L or H. In order to distinguish them from lexical tones, they will be marked by a prime marker (').

8) 
$$\beta T_2 \rightarrow \{ \frac{L}{H}, \}$$

Since a lexical H tone is neutralized before a  $\beta T_2$  tone whether it is L´ or H´, and since as will be shown, the tone anticipation applies among  $\beta T_2$  tones, we can propose the following tone hierarchy (TH):

The tone anticipation rule has to be reformulated as follows:

10) a. 
$${L \choose \alpha T_2} \rightarrow H/_{H,}$$
 b.  $H \rightarrow L/_{H,}$ 

In other words, the tone anticipation applies the way it was formulated in (2) if the morphological tone before a lexical H is toneless. The lexical tones are lowered before or after morphological tones, L' or H'. The rules given in (10) are indeed responsible for the 4 types of tone realization The -ra-, -rak yaa-, -ka-, and the -aa- forms are observed in Table 1. The f, g and h tenses in Table 1 are derived by R.10b, derived by rule 10a. in which case these tenses are supposed to have in the underlying representation a L. The remaining 3 types of tone realization in Table 1--types i-j; k; and l-m--are derived by both R.10a and R.10b. Lexical tone in i-j is neutralized after the H morphological tone. Participial tone can be reconstructed as H in the syllable preceding the verb stem and the underlying representation of the hortative is -ooká-. The remote past is represented by -aara- plus a H on the verb stem. In the case of the 1 and m forms, the H is on the last syllable but realized on the stem per RlOa and R10b.

# 3. Complex tenses

The tenses given in (5) can be combined with some other tense morphemes such as subjunctive, doubt mood, conditional, relative and negative, and thus result in more camples tenses. It is precisely in these instances that it will be illustrated that their tonal output structure is not derived but memorized, since there doesn't seem to be any general way their surface forms can be accounted for in the present generative framework. Tenses that appear in the subjunctive are given first, then come doubt tenses, relative and conditional tenses. The section concludes with negatives.

3.1 Subjunctive. Only three tenses, present, near future and distant future,  $(-ra^{-5}, -ra^{-}, -zaa^{-})$  can appear in this mood.

11)	a.	ba-ra <sup>5</sup> they-present	-work-e t-play-subj. -like- -go -	LL HL HL	bakórê bakínê bakuúndê bageéndê	'they	should	۷'
	b.	-ra -nr.fut	-work-e -play-subj. -like- -go -	H L HL LL	barakore barakine barakuunde barageende	'they	should	۷'
	c.	-zaa -rm.fut	-work-e play-subj. -like- -go -	H L HL LL	bázáakórê bázáakínê bázáakuúndê bázáageéndê	'they	should	۷'

How can we derive the tones in the tenses above? If we posit the subjunctive tone as a final H, we will get the phonetic realization by applying the tone neutralization rule in (10) and the tone anticipation rule in (2). Note, however, that this rule, even if it gives the right result for (11b), is not general, since the data in (11b) and (11c) are not obviously derived by these rules. Each tense seems to have its own subjunctive tone, thus the near future (11b) would have a final L in order to get the right results The distant future would have two Hs, namely the final H and the H on the tense marker. Clearly, some generalization is being missed here.

3.2 <u>Doubt</u>. As the name indicates, doubt mood is used to show uncertainty. The tenses that appear in this mood are present, habitual, future, and both recent and remote pasts  $(-ra^{-5}, \emptyset, -zaa^{-}, -aa^{-}, -aara^{-})$ . Since this mood is solely indicated by tone, it will be placed before the subject agreement. Table 2, which follows Table 1, p. , shows the Doubt mood forms.

 $<sup>^5\</sup>mathrm{Note}$  that in all these cases, the morpheme -ra- is deleted: but this shows that positing such underlying representation is already the incorrect approach.

The underlying doubt tone can be posited as H on the first vowel of the finite verb. The rules that we have formulated earlier give us the right phonetic output for at least the first three tenses. The lexical tones are neutralized as predicted by rule (10) and the doubt tone falls, as dictated by rule (2a). The neutralization rule doesn't apply to the recent past (Table 2, form d), however, since the lexical tones are retained. Note also that in the remote past (form e) an extra H is added on the verb stem. It is clear that the phonetic output of many tenses cannot be predicted all the time.

3.3 Relative. Verbs in relative clauses are marked by a H. The same tone is shared by verbs in "that" clauses. Tenses that appear in relative clauses are: present, habitual, future, recent and remote pasts, conditional and "still" (-ra-,  $-\phi_1$ -, -zaa-, -aa-1, -aara-, -aa-2, -rak aa-). These forms are tabulated in Table 3.

In the the a, b, d, f & g forms, the relative morpheme is a H marked on the last syllable of the finite verb. The phonetic tones in these tenses are derived by the rules that we have posited. Note, however, that the relative marker in the future and remote past is marked differently. In the future tense, this tone is marked on the onset of the tense marker. We observe also that in this instance, the lexical tones are not neutralized. In the remote past, the relative tone is marked on the coda of the tense marker. This is a problem for a theory that would posit the same underlying tone to all relative tenses.

3.4 <u>Realis conditional</u>. This mood is marked by the morpheme ni- (probably from the copula ni) which, like the negative marker nti-, precedes subject agreement. It is used in two tenses, present and future (-ra-, -zaa-).

12)	a.	ni- ba-ra <sup>5</sup> rc-3pp-presen	-work-a -play- -like- t-go -imp.	L HL	nîbakórâ nîbakínâ nîbakuúndâ nîbageéndâ	'if	they	V'	
	ъ.	ni- ba-zaa rc-3pp-future	-work-a -playlikego -imp.	L HL	nibázáákôra nibázáakina nibázáákúunda nibázáageenda	'if	they	will	V <b>'</b>

As we can see, this mood neutralizes the lexical tones and bears different tones in the two tenses. In the  $\underline{a}$  form, the first and last syllables of the verb have a H; whereas in the  $\underline{b}$  form, the morphological tone is marked as a H on the tense morpheme. In the latter tense, tone neutralization doesn't take place as in the former.

3.5 Tenses that take the negative nti-. In the independent clause the negative morpheme is nti-. In Table 4 we find the allowable tenses after this negator: present, recent and remote pasts, future, conditional:then

clause, consecutive, subjunctive and "not yet" forms (-ra-, -aa-1,-aara-, -zaa-, -aa-2,3, -ka-, -e, -raa-).

As we can see, the negative tone is marked differently depending on the tense. In some tenses, it is marked by a complete lowering of the finite verb, as in the Table 5 <u>d</u> & <u>g</u> forms. In the present, the negative tone is marked as H on the last syllable of the verb. In the future, <u>i</u>, it is marked by a H on the tense marker. The same tone is marked on the "not yet", or <u>j</u> form. Notice that in both <u>i</u> and <u>j</u> the tense markers behave like toneless morphemes ( $\alpha T_2$ ) since tone neutralization does not take place, the lexical tones remain and the tone anticipation rule is not blocked. In the <u>h</u> form, negation is tonally marked on the H subject agreement. In <u>g</u>, negation is realized as H on the negating morpheme. In the remote past, <u>e</u>, negation is tonally marked on the coda of the tense marker. Obviously, the same negative morpheme cannot be posited for all tenses.

3.6 <u>Tenses that take the -ta- negator</u>. As mentioned earlier, the negator -ta- is used in subordinate clauses: doubt mood, "that" clauses, relative clauses, conditionals, participials, gerunds and relatives. We see these forms displayed in Table 5.

The gerund is always preceded by the copula -ri. It takes the noun class marker bu- (14). It ends with the subjunctive marker -e and has future reference. Gerunds and infinitives negated are demonstrated in Table 6.

In many tenses, the negative marker can be reconstructed as a toneless morpheme, since the verbs that have it are identical to their positive counterparts. Compare the conditional forms in Table 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , with Table 5  $\frac{b}{2}$  and  $\frac{d}{2}$ . Note that in Table 6, the main verb in the gerundive also has the same tone pattern; other, non-conditional, forms in Table 5 with this tone pattern are:  $\frac{d}{2}$ , and  $\frac{d}{2}$ . The affirmative gerund is part of this pattern: bukórê, bukínê, bukuíndê, bugeéndê. In Table 5  $\frac{d}{2}$  and  $\frac{d}{2}$ , negation is marked on the last syllable of the verb stem. We note also that the tones of the tense marker also appear in 5  $\frac{d}{2}$  and  $\frac{d}{2}$ --compare Table 1,  $\frac{d}{2}$ , and Table 2,  $\frac{d}{2}$ . In  $\frac{d}{2}$ 6 of Table 5, the negative marker produces a lowering on the verb. If the negative infinitive's tones are derived by the tone neutralization rule, the anticipation and the falling rules, then the underlying tones would be three Hs, one on the aspect marker, another on the verb stem and the third on the negator.

## 4. Conclusion

This paper has shown that in order to capture what is going on in the tones of the simple tenses, one has to recognize the following:

i. Some grammatical tones are considered toneless, which means that phonologically, they behav- like lexical Ls and thus allow application of the tone anticipation rule.

- ii. Lexical tones are neutralized before grammatical tones so that a high tone verb stem and a low tone verb stem are realized in the same way.
- iii. There exists a tone hierarchy; lexical tones neutralize before grammatical tones and some grammatical tones neutralize before other grammatical tones.

Although the phonetic tones of simple tenses can be predicted, it has been observed that they cannot be generated in the usual way. This is due to the fact that we cannot tell how the underlying representations of these tenses should be formulated. The same morpheme (relative, negative, doubt ...) has different underlying tones depending on tense. Even where the underlying tone representation is straightforward, it is not easy to generate the tones since one would have to tell beforehand which tones were going to neutralize before the others. This observation makes it unlikely that these tones are derived.

I conclude, therefore, that all these complex tenses are memorized by native speakers rather than generated. The grammar that I am proposing is of course very complex and misses some important generalizations; but then there is no proof that simpler grammars are the psychologically real ones. The phenomenon that we are facing is indeed not unnatural. We are dealing with morphological rules, thus some parts of the grammar, namely morphology and the lexicon, have to be memorized, whereas phonological and syntactic rules are generated.

The irregularity of tone behaviour in this language would have the same explanation as that of rule morphologization in general. Usually phonological rules apply mechanically if their structural descriptions are met. Phonological rules become morphologized, however, if they destroy the paradigm or render opaque the grammatical function of the morpheme [Kimenyi, in preparation]. That is, languages have strategies for keeping the semantic information unaffected. We have noted that lexical tones are neutralized before morphological tones. This is so because morphology is very crucial in communicating both semantic and grammatical information.

There is a possibility also that some types of information might be more important than other types. This would explain the neutralization, in certain complex tenses, of some grammatical tones before others. The combination of tenses, in this instance, have been <a href="lexicalized">lexicalized</a>, so to speak, and constitute for the native speaker one "psychological" tense. There is in fact some morphological evidence to support this hypothesis. First, have observed that not only tones, but also segmental morphemes, neutralize. Thus the present and the habitual come out the same in relative and negative forms (Tables 3 & 4, forms a & b).

In some cases the tense markers of negative verbs are different from their affirmative counterparts. For instance, the present marker is -rain the affirmative but  $-\emptyset$ - in the negative; the "still" tense is realized as -rakyaa- in the affirmative but -ki- in the negative. The hortative morpheme is -raka- in the affirmative, but -ka- + subjunctive ending

			Table 3.	Rel.	ative	2		
a.	- ba-ra <sup>5</sup>	-work-a -play- -like-	bakórâ bakínâ bakuúndâ	H L HL	е.	- ba-aara <sup>5</sup>	-play- -like-	baâkoze baâkinne baâkuunze
	rel- 3pp-presen	t-go -imperf.	bageéndâ	LL		rel-3pp-rm.pa	st-go -perf	ect baâgeenze
ъ.	- ba-Ø₁	-work-a -play- -like-	bakórâ bakínâ bakuúndâ	H L HL	f.	- ba-rakƳa	a <sup>5</sup> -work-a -play- -like-	bagikórâ <sup>3</sup> bagikínâ bagikuúndâ
	rel-3pp-habit.	-go -imperf.	bageéndâ	LL		rel-3pp-still	-go -impe	
c.	- ba-zaa	-work-a -play- -like-	bázáákôra bázáakina bázáákúunda	H L HL	g.	- ba-aa <sub>2</sub>	-work-a -play- -like-	baakórâ baakínâ baakuúndâ
	rel-3pp-future	-go -imperf.	bázáageenda	LL	Glos	rel-3pp-cond.		rf. baageéndâ
d.	- ba-aa <sub>l</sub>	-work-ye -play- -like-	baakózê baakinnê baakuúnzê	H L HL		who V-ed' e.(: who would V'	= d) f. 'who	are still V-ing
					1			
	rel-3pp-nr.pas		baageénzê	LL				
	_	Tab	baageénzê le 4. <u>Tenses</u> t	LL	take	the negative n	<u>ti</u> -	
a.	rel-3pp-nr.pas nti- ba-ra <sup>5</sup>	Tab. -work-a -play-	baageénzê	LL that		the negative n	-work-ye	nhibaakoze nhibaakinpe nhibaakuunze
a.	_	Tab. -work-a -play- -like-	baageénzê le 4. Tenses t H nhibakórâ L nhibakínâ HL nhibakuúndâ	LL that	d.		-work-ye -play- -like-	
a.	nti- ba-ra <sup>5</sup>	Tabwork-a -playlike- t-go -imperfwork-a -play-	baageénzê le 4. Tenses t H nhibakórâ L nhibakínâ HL nhibakuúndâ	that	d.	nti- ba-aa <sub>l</sub>	-work-ye -playlike- t-go -perfwork-ye -play-	nhibaakinne nhibaakuunze nhibaageenze nhibaâkoze nhibaâkinne
	nti- ba-ra <sup>5</sup>	Tabwork-a -playlike- t-go -imperfwork-a -playlike-	baageénzê  Le 4. Tenses t  H nhibakínâ  L nhibakundâ  LL nhibageéndâ  H nhibakórâ  L nhibakínâ  H nhibakínâ	LL that	d.	nti- ba-aal neg-3pp-nr.past	-work-ye -playlikego -perfwork-ye -playlike-	nhibaakinne nhibaakuunze nhibaageenze nhibaâkoze
	nti- ba-ra $^5$ neg-3pp-present	Tabwork-a -playlike- t-go -imperfwork-a -playlikego -imperfwork-a -play-	baageénzê  Le 4. Tenses t  H nhibakínâ  L nhibakundâ  LL nhibageéndâ  H nhibakórâ  L nhibakínâ  H nhibakínâ	that	e.	nti- ba-aaı neg-3pp-nr.past nti- ba-aara <sup>5</sup> neg-3pp-rm.past	-work-ye -playlikego -perfwork-ye -playlike-	nhibaakinne nhibaakuunze nhibaageenze nhibaâkoze nhibaâkinne nhibaâkuunze

Table 4. Tenses that take the negative nti-, cont.

Table 4.	Tenses that take the negative nti-, cont.
g. nti- ba-rak <sup>y</sup> aa <sup>5</sup> -work-a   H -play-   L -like-   HL neg-3pp-still -go -imp.   LL	nhibagikora <sup>3</sup>   i. nti- ba-zaa -work-e   H nhibâzaakore   L nhibâzaakine   hibagikuunda   hibakigeenda   neg-3pp-future -go -subj. LL nhibâzaageende
h. nti- ba-ra <sup>5</sup> -work-e H -play- L -like- HL neg-3pp-nr.futgo -subj. LL	nhíbâkore j. nti- ba-raa -work-a H nhibáráákora nhíbâkine -play- L nhibáráakina nhíbâkuunde -like- HL nhibáráákúunda nhíbâgeende neg-3pp-not yet-go -imp. LL nhibáráageenda
Glosses: a = b 'they don't V' c. d = e 'they didn't V' f.	'they won't V' g. 'they don't V anymore' j. 'they haven't 'may they not V' h = i. 'they shouldn't V' V-ed yet'
Table 5.	Tenses that take the -ta- morpheme
a ba-ta $-\emptyset_2$ -work-a -playlike- (part)-3pp-neg-particgo -imp	H bâdakórâ³
/ par t/- Spp-neg-par trego -imp	the batageema (abb)-spp-neg-ni.pasu-go -peii. bataageemze
b. – ba- ta-aa –work-a -play- -like-	H bataakórâ   c/4 – ba- ta-aara –work-ye bâtaarákôze L bataakinâ –play– bâtaarákinpe HL bataakuundâ –like– bâtaarákuunze
(cond)-3pp-neg-condgo -imp	o. LL bataageéndâ (dbt)-3pp-neg-rm.past-go -perf. bâtaarágéenze
c/l - ba- ta-ra <sup>5</sup> -work-a -play- -like- doubt-3pp-neg-present-go -imp	H bâdakórâ³ L bâdakínâ HL bâdakuúndâ HL bâtageéndâ  L bâtageéndâ  d/l - ba- ta-ra⁵ -work-a badakórâ³ badakínâ -playlike- badakuúndâ badakuúndâ batageéndâ
doubt-3bb-meg-bresent-go -imb	The batageerida (Ter)-Spp-neg-present-go -imp. batageerida
c/2 - ba- ta-zaa -work-a -play- -like-	H bâtázáákôra d/2 - ba- ta-Ø <sub>1</sub> -work-a badakórâ <sup>3</sup> L bâtázáakina -play- badakínâ badakuúndâ LL bâtázáákúunda -like- batázáageenda (rel)-3pp-neg-habitgo -imp. batageéndâ
doubt-3pp-neg-future -go -imp	o. LL bâtázáageenda   (rel)-3pp-neg-habitgo -imp.  batageéndä

```
L batázáakina
                        -play-
                                                                              -play-
                                    HL batázáákúunda
                        -like-
                                                                              -like-
                                    LL batázáageenda
  (rel)-3pp-neg-future -go -imp.
                                                         (rel)-3pp-neg-still -go -imp.
                                                      d/7
d/4
        - ba- ta-aaı
                        -work-ye
                                    H bataakózê
                                                              - ba - ta -aa
                                                                              -work-a
                                    L bataakinnê
                        -play-
                                                                              -play-
                                    HL bataakuúnzê
                        -like-
                                                                              -like-
   (rel)-3pp-neg-nr.past-go -perf. LL bataageénzê
                                                      Glosses:
```

- ba- ta-aara<sup>5</sup> -work-ye d/5 -play--like-

bataakuúndâ (rel)-3pp-neg-cond. -go -imp. bataageeńdâ a. 'them without V-ing' b. 'if they don't V' c. l. 'aren't they V-ing?'

3 = 4. 'didn't thev V?' d. 1 = 2 = 3 'who don't V' 4 = 5 'who didn't V' 6. 'who don't V anymore' 7. 'who wouldn't V'

L bárî budakínê -play-HL bárî budakuúndê -like-3pp-cop # 14-neg-go -subj. LL bárî butaqeéndê Gloss: 'they won't V'

> nhibári bu{kĺnê kuúndê} 'they don't V' aeéndê

or on the main verb. The other way to negate would be as follows:

batagikora

bataqikina

bataakórâ

bataakinâ

batagikuunda

batakigeenda

Table 6. More forms that take the -ta- morpheme H bárí budakórê<sup>3,7</sup> kúdákórâ a. ba- ri # bu- ta-work-e ku- ta-work-a L kúdákínâ -play-HL kúdákuúndâ -likeinf.-neg-go -imp. LL kútágeéndâ

Gloss: 'not to V'

<sup>7</sup>If the main verb has an auxiliary, the negative marker can be marked either on the auxiliary

HL bataâkuunze (rel)-3pp-neg-rm.past-go -perf. LL bataageenze

H bataâkoze L bataâkinne 2. 'will they V?

d/3

Table 5. Tenses that take the -ta- morpheme, cont. H batázáákôra 1d/6 - ba- ta-rakyaa5-work-a - ba- ta-zaa -work-a

on the verb in the negative. The remote past morpheme in the affirmative is -aara- but -aa- in the negative. This suggests, I believe, that affirmative and negative tenses are independent of each other, not derived from the same sources.

It seems also that the tenses in independent clauses are independent of those in subordinate clauses. They are, as in the case of affirmative versus negative, marked differently in some cases. We have noted already that they have different negative markers, for instance, -ta- for subordinate, but nti- for independent, clauses. As in negative verbs, the morpheme -ra- is always deleted, the "still" tense is realized as -ki-instead of -rakYaa-, and the remote past morpheme is -aa- instead of -aara-. A grammar that would posit the same underlying structures, to both affirmative and negative tenses, on the one hand, subordinate and independent forms on the other hand, would not only be unmotivated but also unnatural.

If I am correct in the explanation given here for grammatical tone neutralization and its lexicalization, future research should be devoted to grammatical tone hierarchies in order to predict the direction of tone change in the Bantu verb system.

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A DIACHRONIC-TONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF CERTAIN RANK SHIFTED VERBAL STRUCTURES IN NORTHERN SOTHO<sup>1</sup>

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## 1. Introduction

While analysing the surface tone of certain verbal constructions in Northern Sotho some time ago, I ran into the difficulty that certain structures simply could not be analysed in terms of the tone rules which seemed to work for other aspects of the language.

The structures I am referring to include the so-called "future tense" as in:

## (1) "Future"

bá 
$$t \cdot 10$$
 e  $t \cdot 10$  e they will bring it'

and the so-called "long present tense" as in:

# (2) "Present"

bá 
$$\frac{\acute{a}}{}$$
 e tlísa they pres. it bring 'they are bringing it'

Some light was thrown on this problem by Talmy Givón, when he made the statement that: "...the modality <u>prefixes</u>...and the verb-deriving <u>suffixes</u>...have historically arisen from main verbs dominating sentential complements" [Givón 1971:394].

## 2. Underlying Tone and Some Tone Rules

The starting-point for determining the tone rules<sup>2</sup> is the underlying tonal representation. If a syllable is realized as /+H/ in an environment of /-H/ syllables, then that /+H/ syllable is taken to be underlying /+H/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>I am greatly indebted to Profs. J. A. Louw and Fritz Ponelis, and Mr. Anthony Davey, for their valuable suggestions and criticism on the paper that preceded this article.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>A more complete exposition of the underlying tone and the tone rules of Northern Sotho (Pedi) can be found in Lombard [1976].

In terms of these principles, the following has been found:

- a. The verb stem  $-t = \int -t \int a \cdot bring'$  has an underlying -H/--H/ tone sequence and therefore belongs to the low class of stems, e.g.:
- (3) go tli∫a 'to bring'
- b. The infinitive prefix go- 'to' is underlying /-H/. (cf. (3))
- c. The object agreement morpheme -é- 'it' is underlying /+H/, e.g.:
- (4) go  $\underline{\acute{e}}$  this to bring it to bring it

Furthermore, it is evident from this example that the underlying /-H/ first syllable of the verb stem is realized as [+H] on the surface. This can only be ascribed to the influence of the preceding /+H/ syllable, to which it is assimilated. Assimilation (TA) may be schematized as:

(5) TA: 
$$/-H/ \rightarrow [+H] / /+H/___/-H/$$

It should be pointed out that the word-final syllable at the end of an utterance is never assimilated to a preceding /+H/ syllable.

- d. The future tense marker -tio- 'shall, will' and the present tense marker -a- are both underlying /-H/:
- (6) ke tlo tli∫a 'I shall bring'
- (7) ke <u>a</u> tli∫a I pres. bring 'I am bringing'
- e. The subject agreement morpheme ba- 'they' is underlying /+H/ as in:
- (8) <u>bá</u> á tli∫a they pres. bring 'they are bringing'

Again the first syllable following bá- is assimilated to [+H].

#### 3. The Problem

The following underlying tonal representations of the two structures under discussion may be deduced from the foregoing:

(9) \*bátloétlifa and \*báaétlifa

The first syllable of the verb stem is assimilated to [+H]:

(10) \*bá tlo é tlísa and \*bá a é tlísa (TA, cf. (5))

On the surface -tlo- and -a- are realized as [+H], but in this environment, in terms of the rules stated, assimilation cannot operate to change them to [+H]. On the other hand, the object agreement morpheme  $-\acute{e}-$  cannot be changed to [-H] on the surface in terms of any known rule. But it is realized with a low pitch.

A possible explanation for these seemingly unaccountable surface pitch realizations is based on the hypothesis that at some earlier stage in their

historical development, these constructions must have been more complex.

## 4. The Future Tense

As far as the future tense is concerned, it has been convincingly argued by Ponelis [1975], working along the lines of Givón [1971; 1973], that the auxiliary verb -tlo is the result of rank shifting (cf. Halliday [1961:251]). He presents a synchronic semantic, syntactic and phonological analysis. Ponelis argues that the future tense:

(11) bá tló bapala 'they will play'

is a development of the construction:

(12) bá tlá || || go bapala 'they come to play'

where | | | | is a clause boundary, and the construction consists of a main verb (Givón's modality verb) followed by an infinitival subordinate clause. Rank shifting takes place: the main verb becomes an auxiliary verb and the subordinate clause is turned into a part of the new verb phrase. Ponelis [1975:59] puts it clearly that the auxiliary verb is still a word (and not a morpheme). This will be explained fully later.

Concerning the semantics, Ponelis [1975:51] holds that the meaning of modality verbs tends to become subsidiary to that of the verb of the subordinate clause, semantic grammaticalization follows and categorial values like "future tense" are brought about.

Phonologically the future tense developed from free to categorial cliticization and the word status of the auxiliary verb is confirmed by tone rules, according to Ponelis [1975:47, 59].

With this exposition in mind, we can now have a closer look at the "future tense" from a tonological point of view. Note that we are employing the asterisk here, as in (9) and (10) above, to indicate an underlying or derivational step which cannot be a surface configuration. Starting from its underlying structure as main (modality) verb plus subordinate clause and assigning the underlying tones to each syllable, the result is:

(13) \*bá tla || || go é tlija
they come to it bring 'they come to bring it'

In this first step, the main verb and subordinate clause become semantically and syntactically more integrated/tightly fused, as:

(14) \*bá tla || go é tli∫a

where | | is a phrase boundary, and the two clauses have become a unit of main verb + fixed phrase.

In this environment it is possible for the stem -tla 'come' of

the main verb to be changed to [+H] under the influence of the preceding /+H/ subject agreement morpheme (bá- 'they'), and followed by a phrase boundary:  $\rightarrow$  \*bá tlá go é tlija. The <u>a</u> shows an instance of tonal repetition. This type of tone influence is called <u>repetition</u>, which differs from assimilation in the following respects:

- a. The word-final syllable is changed to [+H], and
- b. more than one syllable is subject to change, e.g.:

where  $\underline{a}..\underline{a}$  are the bearers of repeated [+H] tones, in their surface form.

Repetition (T Rep) may be schematized as in (16), where  $\Sigma$ =syllable:

(16) TRep: 
$$/-H/ \rightarrow [+H] / /+H/ \frac{\Gamma_1}{\Gamma_2} || COMP.^3$$

The main verb rank-shifts to an auxiliary verb followed by the new main verb. In the process of rank shifting the g of the infinitive prefix go- 'to' is deleted, followed by the coalescence of the a of -tla and the o of go- (## represents a full word boundary):

(17) \*bá tló # # é tli[a

Assimilation of the first syllable in the new main verb to the preceding /+H/ object agreement morpheme -é- takes place:

(18) \*bátló##étlí∫a (TA)

This leads to a succession of four /+H/ syllables—an environment for the operation of dissimilation in terms of the rule:

(19) Tonal Dissimilation (TD): 
$$/+H/ \rightarrow [-H] / /+H/_1^n /+E/_0^n$$

as follows:

We have now derived the "future tense" to its surface form, since (20) is the same as example (1).

That -tlo must still be considered a word and not a prefixal morpheme is inter alia tonologically evident from the fact that the nega-

 $<sup>^3</sup>$ To specify COMP more accurately, more research has to be undertaken on the relation between the word category following the complement and the tone of its initial syllable.

tive tone rule for Northern Sotho still treats -tlo as a monosyllabic verb stem. This rule causes monosyllabic verb stems of the Low class to be realized as [+H], e.g.:

- (21) /go lwa/ 'to fight'
- (22) go se Iwé to not fight 'not to fight' (NEG)
- go se tló lwa (23)to not fut. fight 'not to be going to fight' (NEG) [Ponelis 1975:59]

## 5. The Long Present Tense

Due to the lack of any synchronic comparable structures for the "long present tense", a diachronic approach has to be followed in analysing its present structure. According to Meinhof [1948:111] and van Warmelo [1927:90], the present tense -a- can be traced back to \*-ya (\*-qa according to Guthrie's transcription) as modality or main verb. Meinhof reports that it occurs in Konde as -ja 'be, become', followed by the infinitive and in Pedi (a dialect of Northern Sotho) as a, as in:

- (24)ke a dira I pres. do 'I am doing'
- Meinhof [1932:31] puts it clearly: \*y (\*g) is deleted in Sotho.

When the present tense is compared with the future tense, one is struck by the tonal similarity between the two structures, except in a few instances, which are not recorded in the following list. We will point these out at a later stage.

- (25)Future a. re tlo hlaba b. re a 'we will slaughter' we pres. slaughter
  - c. ke tlo dí tlát∫a I will them fill 'I will fill them'
  - e. ó tló tli∫a 'she will bring'
  - g. ó tló ba bóláya he will them kill 'he will kill them'

'we are slaughtering' dí tlát∫a d. ke a I pres. them fill 'I am filling them'

Present

hlaba

- f. ó á tlila she pres. bring 'she is bringing' h. ó á ba
- bóláya he pres. them kill 'he is killing them'

As already indicated, the present tense marker -a- is underlying /-H/. When comparing it with the future tense marker it may be deduced that the original modality/main verb \*-ya is also underlying /-H/.

Tonological and morphological data indicate that the subordinate clause in these constructions can only be either infinitive or consecutive (cf. Lombard [1976:166]). The infinitive prefix and the consecutive subject agreement morpheme have an underlying /-H/ tone, which has the least tonological influence on the verb itself. Therefore, the original construction can, for example, be taken to be either (26) or (27):

- (26) \*bá ya || || goétli∫a they pres. to it bring (27) \*bá ya || || ba é tli∫
- (27) \*bá ya || || ba é tlija they pres. they it bring

The following step would then be that the main/modality verb and the subordinate clause become more integrated:

(28) **\***bá ɣa || {<sup>go</sup><sub>ba</sub>} é t∣i∫a

This is followed by the repetition of the /+H/ on the subject agreement morpheme on the modality/main verb \*-ya:

(29) \*bá  $\gamma$ á ||  $\{^{90}_{ba}\}$  é tli[a (TRep)

Rank shifting takes place and the  $\gamma$  of the main/modality verb \*- $\gamma$ á is deleted to result in -á- as the present modality morpheme. The infinitive prefix go- or the consecutive subject agreement morpheme is also deleted (+ = morpheme boundary):

(30) \*bá á + é tlija (Rank shift)

The first syllable of the new main verb  $-t \text{II} \int a$  is assimilated to /+H/ by the preceding /+H/ object agreement morpheme:

(31) \*bá á + é tlía (TA)

Finally, the object agreement morpheme is dissimilated to /-H/:

(32) bá á + e t lí $\int a$  (TD)

As we have shown the full derivation of the "future tense" by examples leading up to (20), which is identical to (1), we have now shown the full derivation of the "long present", since (32) = (2). That the modality/main verb is shifted in rank to be realized as a morpheme is inter alia evident from the fact that it is subject to dissimilation in a favourable tonological environment, e.g.:

(33) \*ó á + é lwa

- which is realized on the surface as:
- (34)  $\rightarrow$  6 <u>a</u> + é Iwa (TD) he pres. it fight 'he is involved in a fight'

## 6. Differences Between Future and Present

When it occurs in a similar tonological environment, the future tense marker is never dissimilated, but is realized with a /+H -H/ tone sequence (phonetically a falling tone) concomitant with a half-long vowel:

(35) ó tlô. # # é | wa he will it fight 'he will be involved in a fight'

In other words, dissimilation is realized when the historical word boundary is deleted, but not when the full word boundary is still present. According to Hyman [1975:196] a full word boundary is "hard to penetrate" and therefore dissimilation is not realized in the case of the future tense.

The /+H -H/ tone sequence is the result of the coalescence and fusion of -tla as original main/modality verb being /+H/ due to repetition, and the underlying /-H/ of the infinitive go-. This fusion gives rise to inherent quantity (being realized as a half-long vowel), which reveals the polymorphemic origin of -tlo and that clarifies its /+H -H/ tone sequence.

On the other hand, the present tense marker -a- is never realized with a /+H -H/ tone sequence, not even in rhythmic quantity position (i.e. the penultimate syllable in a sentence). This is evident from the following comparison:

(36) a. bá tlô: # # já b. bá a: + já
'they will eat' they pres. eat 'they are eating'

This indicates that no trace of fusion or coalescence is left in -a- and it is realized as a single morpheme.

Another reason why Ponelis [1975:59] regards the future tense -tlo as a word is that the relative suffix -gó is affixed to a word, a verb, e.g.:

(37) (bá) bá tlo- $\underline{go}$  # # tl $\underline{i}$  \[ \int \text{TA} \]
(those) they will-who bring 'they who will bring'

His view is tonologically supported by the absence of the assimilation of the first syllable of the new main verb. This can only be ascribed to the ability of the full word boundary to block the operation of this rule. Similarly, dissimilation is blocked by the full word boundary in an otherwise favourable tonological environment:

(38) (bá) bá tio -gó # #  $\underline{\acute{e}}$  tií ʃa (-TD) (those) they will-who  $\overline{i}$ t bring 'they who will bring it'

in which the object agreement morpheme é- is not dissimilated.

This same phenomenon also occurs in an environment where the final /+H/ syllable in an utterance is lowered when preceded by a /+H/ penul-

timate syllable. This may be formalized as Final-syllable Lowering (FsL), below, where sentence boundary is marked by  $\neq$ :

(39) FsL: 
$$/+H/ \rightarrow [-H] / /+H/___ \neq$$

This rule operates, for instance, when an underlying /+H/ monosyllabic verb stem in sentence-final position is preceded by the /+H/ subject agreement morpheme as penultimate syllable:

Final-syllable lowering is blocked when a full word boundary precedes the final syllable in the future tense with the relative suffix, e.g.:

#### 7. Summary

Tonological evidence supports the following points:

- a. Both constructions developed from a main/modality verb plus subordinate clause sequence.
- b. The whole structure with -tlo has rank-shifted from a separate clause with a main verb to a part of a clause with -tlo as an auxiliary. This is evident from the fact that:
  - 1. -t/o is not subject to dissimilation (35),
  - it is realized with a /+H -H/ sequence concomitant with inherent quantity (35),
  - 3. assimilation of the first syllable after the full word boundary is absent (37).
  - 4. dissimilation in an otherwise favourable tonological environment is blocked by the presence of the full word boundary (38),
  - 5. final-syllable lowering does not operate when preceded by a full word boundary (41), and
  - 6. it is treated as a monosyllabic verb stem by the negative tone rule (23).
- c. The present tense marker has shifted in rank from main/modality verb to become a single <u>morpheme</u>, a modality prefix. This is evident from the fact that:
  - 1. it is subject to dissimilation (34), and
  - 2. it is not realized with a /+H -H/ tone sequence--not even in rhythmic quantity position (36).

Without any doubt, these structures can be interpreted along the

same lines for other Bantu languages. In this regard, Dr. Hazel Carter (London University) informed me in a personal communication that this historical development is supported tonologically in the case of Shona (Zezuru) for both structures. Furthermore, she presented synchronic evidence to illustrate different stages of development 4 in Northern and Southern Tonga, e.g.:

> Northern Southern u-na ku-langa unoolanga

<sup>&#</sup>x27;he will look'

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Ponelis [1975:47,48] also refers to Zulu in connection with this phenomenon.

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#### DOWNSTEP DISPLACEMENT IN KIKUYU (abstract)

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1. We are concerned with a number of processes in Kikuyu tonal phonology involving downstep, and with the contribution Kikuyu affords to our understanding of the status of downstep in phonological theory. Specifically, we propose to view downstep as a phonological entity ordered among the tonemes which constitute an independent level of phonological representations [Clements 1976], rather than, as in some treatments, an intonational proceeds determined by certain features (or configurations of features) within the feature matrices defining tones.

We review the major tonal processes involving DS (downstep) in 23 Kikuyu idiolects, representative of the northern, southern, and western districts of the Kikuyu-speaking region. The processes in question are rules of phrase phonology (rules of "external sandhi"), dependent upon both a bipartite division of nongrammatical morphemes (for the most part, independent words) into two tonal classes, I and II, and the syntactic configurations in which these may occur. These processes are summarized in the following sections. In several cases, it can be shown that significant generalizations can be formulated only if DS is viewed as an entity ordered among strings of tonemes. Space permits the discussion of only two such cases in this abstract.

2.1 Noninterrogative sentences are marked finally by intonational processes of key-lowering which can be summarized as follows:

R.O. 
$$\emptyset \to /$$
 \_ L\_Q(H\_Q) #\_S (where L\_ is a maximal string of L tones) né mwayáhiná [- - - ] 'he's a weakling' mwayáhiná mórito [- - - ] 'heavy weakling'

It will be noted that DS is "total" (Meeussen) in the sense that a sequence L!H is phonetically equivalent to the sequence LL, the sequence H!H to the sequence HL, etc. As RO is an automatic, exceptionless process in these sentences the DSs it introduces are fully predictable and are not indicated in the examples.

- 2.2 Words of all word-classes (excluding grammatical particles) are classified into one of two sets, I and II as mentioned above, according to whether they do (II) or do not (I) undergo a rule of tone flattening to be discussed below (sec. 2.5). This classification is also relevant to the formulation of the DS insertion rules. Certain details aside, DS is introduced into strings after every item of class I, except in two environments: (i) between a verb and a following N, ADJ, or ADV (this restriction applies in positive statements only), and (ii) between the head of a NP and the first following complement. DS is introduced after class II items in more restricted circumstances, namely, after the first complement to a V, in positive statements.
- 2.3 By a process of DS displacement, a DS following a H tone introduced by the rules described above is copied to the right of a string of following L tones, all of which become H; the original DS is deleted in all but one of the idiolects considered. This is the rule termed "block raising" in Ford [1975].

2.4 In certain words a H tone spreads to a following L tone across any word boundary not marked by DS, if the following root tone is L:

R2. L 
$$\rightarrow$$
 H / H # L

 $2.5\,$  The final H tones of class II items become L sentence-finally after L, unless immediately following the main verb in a positive statement:

R3. 
$$H_Q \rightarrow L_Q / L \longrightarrow_{II} \#S$$
 (the flattening rule: see Ford [1975:51-52])

The syntactic condition has not been included in this formulation of the rule. This is because it is unnecessary, given the rules of DS insertion stated in sec. 2.2. Note that in positive statements (only), DS is inserted after the first complement to a N or V. In such sentences, therefore, items of class II ending in final H tone will be of the form:...H]\_I! # S. Due to the presence of DS, such items will not meet the structural description of R3. Cf. the following examples: (i) né kévireréryá! 'it's a hindrance' (positive statement: R3 inapplicable); (ii) kevirererya 'hindrance' (citation form: no DS inserted, and R3 applies).

These facts strongly support the view that DS is an entity ordered among tonemes in phonological representations. Under the contrary assumption, there is no way of relating the fact that DS is inserted, and R3 fails to apply, in exactly the same set of circumstances.

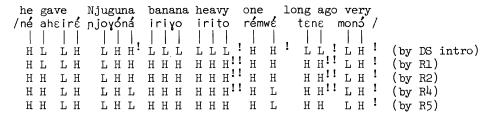
2.6 Final H tones are classified as [ t stable ] [Ford 1975]. It is

not impossible that this diacritic marking may be eliminable in favor of a purely phonological analysis, but this will not affect our discussion. All unstable H (UH) tones become L before a H tone across a WB, provided that no DS intervenes:

R4. UH 
$$\rightarrow$$
 L / # H

As before (sec. 2.5), no special mention need be made of the condition that no DS intervenes, since a string of the shape UH # ! H does not meet the SD of the rule.

- 2.7 Two contiguous DSs undergo context-free deletion:
- R5. !!  $\rightarrow$  Ø
- 2.8 These rules can be illustrated by the following further derivation (all items crucially involved are class I):



Naturally, single DSs remaining in strings after the operation of Rl are not deleted (see e.g. the example in sec. 2.3). Sentence-final DSs have no phonetic effect.

3.0 The summary of Kikuyu tone sandhi presented here can only be regarded as a very schematic overview of a system that offers many complexities. We believe, however, that it accurately characterizes the nature, if not the detail, of the tonal processes involved.

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#### IDIOSYNCRATIC, SUPRASEGMENTAL PROCESSES IN MENDE

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#### 1. Introduction

In my paper read before the conference on African linguistics in Gainesville [Dwyer 1976], I claimed that Mende was not a suprasegmental tone language of the type envisioned by Leben [1973]. Yet, in that paper I suggested that there were a number of processes in Mende which nevertheless appeared to be of a suprasegmental nature. In this paper, I present two types of these processes, the development of the <u>H HL</u> tone pattern and "demorphologized" compounds and then show first how these phenomena support an autosegmental view of phonology and second, how idiosyncratic features fit into a general theory of phonology.

## 2. The Development of the H HL Tone Pattern

Mende contains a small set of disyllabic morphemes that display a high-falling tone pattern. These words, taken from Spears [1968] are given in (1):

(1) ngóngô tooth hókpô navel pókô imitate tókplâ seat, bottom mbémbê circle

Because examples of this tonal pattern are few in number and because this pattern is not present in Proto Southwestern Mande, the high-falling tone pattern appears to be a fairly recent development in Mende. The ways in which this pattern arose provide an important insight into the nature of suprasegmental tone processes.

One source of this tone pattern appears to be from the loss of a final low-toned syllable with the reassignment of the low tone to the preceding syllable. Evidence for this comes from the various alternate forms reported for 'tooth' and 'navel' by Spears [1968] and by Innes [1969]. Interestingly, these variants do not all appear in the same dialect, or possibly idiolect, but appear to be randomly distributed as the following example (2) illustrates:

(2) ngóngólì (S), ngóngóù (I), ngóngóò (S), ngóngô (S,I) S=Spears [68] hókpólì (I), hókpóì (I), hókpóù (I), hókpó (S,I) I=Innes [69]

Clearly the variants given in (2) suggest a progression from left to right and that some of the forms given in (1) represent reduced versions of fuller forms. And from this analysis we can conclude that a suprasegmental tonal process is involved. By suprasegmental I mean that the tonal melody of the words in question is to some extent independent of the composition of the segments to which the melody is associated. This suprasegmental process is adequately described by the autosegmental framework developed by Goldsmith [1976], as the following derivation (3) illustrates:

It is important to also note that this process is idiosyncratic, that is, it does not apply to all potential forms. For example, neither Innes nor Spears recorded all variations from their sources. Secondly, not all potential inputs to the process described in (3) undergo the process, as the examples in (4) illustrate:

A second source for the high-falling tone pattern appears to result from syncope rather than from apocope. This process differs from the first because it results in a medial consonant-liquid cluster. The following set of examples (5) show the optional application of this process:

On the basis of this evidence, it appears likely that a word like tɔkplâ with its consonant-liquid cluster was originally derived from a fuller form, say tɔkpɔ́là or tɔkpálà in much the same way that the short form fúflô 'dust' is derived from its free variant fúfúlò.

In considering this second process, it too is clearly suprasegmental in nature and is clearly idiosyncratic. Thus the development of the high-falling tone pattern in Mende appears to be the result of two independent processes, both of which are idiosyncratic and both of which are suprasegmental in nature.

Evidence of this sort, the loss of a segment and the reassignment of its tone to an adjacent syllable, has been used by Goldsmith [1976] and others to support an autosegmental view of phonology. The data may be novel in the sense that these processes are highly idiosyncratic, but as such do not really provide any new support for the autosegmental position.

In the next section, I present evidence that if correct provides even stronger evidence in support of autosegmental compounds.

## 3. Demorphologized Compounds

A detailed examination of the Mende lexicon reveals a substantial number of word forms which appear to be compounds on the basis of their general morphological appearance, but which in one way or another deviate from compounds. In Table 1, items (a-c) represent normal compounds, while the others (d-m) represent what I call demorphologized compounds.

I use the term "demorphologized compounds" because these forms cannot be directly generated from their constituent morphemes without the additional application of ad hoc rules, implying of course that these forms are no longer regarded as morphologically complex and consequently entered as individual units in the lexicon. By the term "true compound" I mean the anticipated form of the compound were it derived from the suggested constituents using the known compound rules. For details see Spears [1968].

In examining these compounds, it becomes clear that while these demorphologized compounds (examples (e) through (m)) appear to be the result of idiosyncratic processes, their form is nevertheless constrained in a very definite way. In order to demonstrate this, the following observations are important:

- (6) a. Item (e) and (f) have the same number of syllables as the true compound.
  - b. Items (f, g, h, i, j and k) have one less syllable than the true compound.
  - c. Item (1) has the same number of syllables as the true compound, but the tones have been repositioned.
  - d. Item (m) has one more syllable than the true compound.

Assuming that the "demorphologized" compounds were originally derived from their corresponding true compounds, an assumption which is by no means certain, the question arises: in what way are they derived and what principle do they follow? A closer examination reveals that they all have three syllables and three tones. This observation could be explained by what I call the principle of tonal/segmental parity (7):

(7) The least marked relationship that can exist between a tonal melody and a string of syllables is for each note of the melody to be uniquely associated with one tone-bearing segment.

All of the examples in Table 1 contain a three note melody ( $\underline{L} + \underline{L}$ ). Using the principle of tonal/segmental parity we would expect that items

Table 1. Normal vs. Demorphologized Compounds

Demorphologized True

nyá

tàwă

tàwă

ngèlě

ndă

tobacco

tobacco

sky

mouth

First Constituent

Second Constituent

female

bowl

powder

mouth

water

há

νèἕ

vúká

ndå

yå

Compound

tàwà + véè

tàwà + vúkà

ngèlè + ndâ

ndà + yâ

+ hâ

nyà

Gloss

a. woman

j. pipe

k. snuff

1. morning

m. saliva

Compound

nyàhâ

tàvéè

tàvúkà

ngèéndà

ndàáyà

ъ.	child	ndòpô	ndò + pô	ndó	child	pò	?
с.	tear	ngàyâ	ngà + yâ	ng <b>ǎ</b>	eye	y <b>ă</b>	water
d.	fire	ngòmbû	ûd + mágn	ng <b>š</b> ŋ	fire	bù	in
e.	girl	nyàápò	nyàhá + pò	nyàhâ	woman	pò	?
f.	male	hìíndò	hìni + ndò	hìnî	man	ndó	child
g.	potato leaf	njòl <b>á</b> à	njòpò + láwà	njòpŏ	potato	láwá	leaf
h.	God	ngèwớò	ngèlè + wớò	ngèlě	sky	พว์ว์	big
i.	spy	mànéè	màà + nénè	màă	on	nènè	shadow

(e) and (f) would be fully unmarked in this respect because they have the same number of notes and syllables. Accordingly, items (g) through (k) would be considered marked because they contain one more tone-bearing segment than notes. Thus, the demorphologized compounds appear to have achieved parity through the loss of a tone-bearing segment. And surprisingly, item (1) while having the same number of notes and tone-bearing segments, acheives parity through the reassociation of the notes according to the principle in (7). Finally, and even more surprising, in order to achieve the supposed tonal/segmental parity, the demorphologized compound (item (m)) appears to have acquired an additional tone-bearing segment, when compared to its "true" form. These developments are summarized in (8) below, using an autosegmental notation:

- - c. Note Reassigning

    L HL LH L

    V | I | I | LH L LH L

    ngele + nda ngeenda

    d. Syllable Decreasing

As mentioned earlier, the principle of tonal/segmental parity, if correct, offers even stronger support for the partial autonomy of the tonal tier. In this instance, not only is the tonal melody preserved, but under certain conditions which are as yet not fully understood, the tonal tier can actually affect the segmental composition of a given word, as was evidenced by the evolution of the word "saliva" given in (8d).

At this point caution should be exercised, because thus far only one such example of the progression (8d) has been found, and consequently the strength of the claim made above is slight. Nevertheless, additional support for the principle of tonal parity can be found elsewhere in Mende, and again we observe that these examples involve idiosyncratic processes.

The first set of examples (9) involves four pairs of free variants. In each of these cases, evidence can be presented to show that the shorter form has been derived from the longer form, at least historically, thus representing a progression that is in accord with the principal of tonal/segmental parity. Again, it is of interest that these alternations must be considered idiosyncratic because not all words of this type show these alternations.

(9) póómà ~ pómà back, behind ngàyàngáyá ~ ngàngáyá njàtóló ~ njàtó water plant (njǎ = water) gravel ngólíhú ~ ngóhú ear

Furthermore the alternation of the word glossed as 'gravel', which in its full form is clearly a reduplicated morpheme, suggests that the large percentage of words of the type:  $C_1V_1C_1V_1C_2V_2$  may also be reduced reduplicates which are moving in the direction of tonal/segmental parity. These examples are given in (10) below:

```
(10) ndòślò <? *ndòlś + lślò earth, ground
kókślì <? *kślí + kślò to seek
kékélé <? *kélé + kélé fraction
fùfúlò < *fùlò + fúlò dust
fìvíì < *fìlì + vílì shake (dry)
tòólò < *tòlò + lólò kola nut
```

The evidence given in (9) and (10) strongly suggests that the principle of tonal/segmental parity (7) is a true operating principle in Mende, and interestingly suggests one way in which partially reduplicated forms arise diachronically.

Before going further, I would like to point out an apparent contradiction to the principle in (7). The data presented in section one show that certain processes appear to operate against the principle of tonal/segmental parity, because it results in a falling tone (where two notes are assigned to the same syllable).

This development may not be in opposition to the principle, however, for a number of reasons. First, the reason for the developments in section 2 appears to be reduction processes, while that in section 3 appears to be a word internal readjustment. Thus section 2 processes can be seen as bunching processes while section 3 processes are unmarking processes. Second, we may note that while the association of notes in (1) may violate the principle in (7), the numbers of notes and tone-bearing segments do not. Given this second observation, we might expect the derived  $\underline{H}$   $\underline{H}\underline{L}$  words in (1) to eventually reduce to  $\underline{H}$   $\underline{L}$  words, because of the principle of tonal/segmental parity.

Although it is not clear at this point, there is some evidence in the history of Southwestern Mande (of which Mende is a member) that the restructuring of  $\underline{H}$   $\underline{H}\underline{L}$  to  $\underline{H}$   $\underline{L}$  may have taken place once before.

The Southwestern Mande languages contain a small set of morphemes which have a high-falling pattern in Loko, a high-high pattern in Bandi, and a high-low tone pattern in Mende and Kpelle (the Loma data is irrelevant here). The generally accepted family tree relationship of these languages is given in (11):

suggests a situation more awkward than the new alternative suggested here, the possibility of a parallel evolution of  $\underline{H}$  HL to  $\underline{H}$  L in both Mende and Kpelle can be tolerated.

Furthermore, this reinterpretation of the development of this tonal pattern permits a better statement of its development in Southwestern Mande. According to Dwyer [1973], only two tonal classes in Southwestern Mande have cognates in Northern Mande (the most closely related group of languages). These are \*(H)H and \*(L)P, where P = polarized tone, while the remainder: \*L HL, \*H L (reanalyzed here as \*H HL) and \*L L represent recent (Proto Southwestern Mande) innovations. Evidence of the sort presented in (6) was used to suggest that the \*L HL tone patterns may have resulted from opaque nominal compounds while the remainder could only be explained as borrowings. With the reanalysis of \*H L as \*H HL, it is possible to suggest that at least some of the H HL words arose from the processes illustrated in section one of this paper. The result of this reanalysis, in addition to maintaining coherence with the principle of tonal/segmental parity, suggests that borrowing may have had less influence on the development of Southwestern Mande tone patterns than was previously supposed.

## 4. Implications

This paper raises a number of issues which may serve as avenues of future research:

- a. the nature of idiosyncratic tone processes
- b. the nature of phonological complexity or markedness
- 4.1 Idiosyncratic processes. Each of the suprasegmental processes described here are idiosyncratic in nature. That is, while we can provide a statement of the class of words which undergo a particular process, we cannot identify the specific words which fit that process. This notion parallels Labov's [1972] observation of the fronting rule in New York City English. While it is possible to characterize the class of words undergoing this process (those containing æ), not all of the words in this class undergo this fronting process. Furthermore, even though the number of words which do undergo the process are increasing, it was impossible to determine which word would be next. Although these processes have been characterized as idiosyncratic with respect to the particular words to which they apply, the nature of the phonological changes are clearly identifiable as a legitimate phonological process. Thus, once a particular phonological string undergoes a particular rule, there is no doubt as to its outcome.

The fact that idiosyncratic processes exist in language gives rise to the question how might this fact be incorporated into a theory of phonology and why? The question can most appropriately be answered given a lexicalist view of the lexicon such as that provided by Jackendoff [1975], who argues that whole words as strings of morphemes are stored in the lexicon rather than individual morphemes as the 1965 Aspects model suggests.

Given this view, we can distinguish between idiosyncratic rules which apply within the lexicon and the standard, regular rules which apply to the output of the lexicon. (The model of "upside down phonology" as put forward by Leben and Robinson [1975] with its notion of frozen rule could easily be incorporated in this framework, as could the notions of natural phonology put forth by Vennemann, Stampe and Hooper.) Although space does not permit a full elaboration of the point, it is worth noting that many rules which start out as idiosyncratic rules later become regular and then apply to all words which meet the structural description of the rule. This observation provides at least one answer to the complex question: where do (regular) phonological rules come from?

Secondly, a systematic examination of these idiosyncratic processes may lead to a better understanding as to why such processes exist, particularly in the light of "reductive" processes. Drawing from Zipf's observation that there is a strong positive correlation between a word's semantic complexity and its phonological complexity, Eulenberg [1964] concludes that rules actually operate to bring about a better balance between semantic content and phonological content. Eulenberg further points out that such a proposal does not "itself predict the existence or exact nature of individual rules, but rather acts as a constraint on the definition of a possible...rule" [Eulenberg 1964:198].

Before going further, I would like to add to this proposal the suggestion that the frequency of use of a given morpheme may have an equally important bearing on the question of phonological complexity as well. This is consistent with Zipf's observation because function words are not only smaller in semantic content than major category words, but more frequent in occurrence.

Logically following from this proposition is the conclusion that idiosyncratic rules are those which generally cope with an informational imbalance of individual lexical items while regular rules are those which cope with the imbalance of whole word classes. Taking this fact and the observation that word classes are generally defined by affixes, and the fact that the semantic content of an affix is considerably less than the free standing word from which it is derived, we can begin to see why so many regular (morphophonemic) rules involve affix boundaries while the idiosyncratic processes do not, and why morphophonemic rules are reductive.

This brief statement is intended to give an insight into the nature of idiosyncratic phonological rules and their relationship to a general

theory of phonology and into the complex question why are there phonological rules. In closing this section I would like to add that the study of the idiosyncratic processes through time has largely been neglected in favor of the more impressive regular developments. In this regard, I would venture to say that a diachronic investigation of idiosyncratic processes would prove to be as rewarding as has been the diachronic study of the regular processes.

- 4.2 The nature of phonological complexity. The principle of tonal/segmental parity (7) suggests an interesting axiom, that of phonological tension:
- (12) The association of two notes of any tier with the same segmental unit is more complex than the association of a single such note.

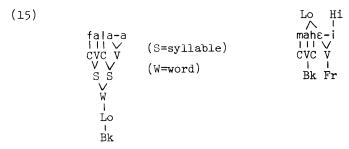
While space does not permit an elaboration of this principle, the following examples will give an illustration of how this principle might be used to explain certain types of developments.

4.2.1 The definite suffix. The definite suffix - in Mende has two effects on the phonetic realization of Mende nouns. First, under certain conditions, it may cause a fronting of the preceding vowel; second, it may assimilate to that vowel. (There are also situations where no effect occurs.) These situations are given in (13), where tone is not relevant:

The conditioning factors for these developments are at least complex and probably will involve the use of a diacritic feature; however, these facts are not relevant to the task of illustrating phonological tension.

When the affix -i is added, tension is created (14):

This tension results from a conflict between two autosegmental tiers: the oral feature tier and the major class tier. Because the final segment of the noun and the only segment of the suffix are vowels, a single vowel note is assigned to these segments (a-i in the above examples). Because each vowel requires different oral features, a situation of phonological tension arises. To resolve this, readjustments are required. For example, tension can be relieved by shedding some notes from one tier or the other. Interestingly, each of the examples in (14) undergoes a different tension-releasing process to arrive at the observed surface form, given in (15). In the first example, fala-i the definite suffix loses its markings of [high] and [front]; in the second example the final vowel of the noun acquires the frontness of the affix.



By the definition of tension in (12), each of the forms in (15) can be seen to be less tense versions of their underlying forms. Likewise, the developments given in (2) can also be seen to follow a tension-reducing progression.

These two examples serve to illustrate that the principle of tonal/segmental parity and its more general case, phonological tension, may be useful in explaining why certain types of phonological rules develop the way they do. First, the addition of an affix creates tension which subsequently is reduced by phonological rules.

### 5. Conclusion

In this paper, I have examined a number of idiosyncratic phonological (suprasegmental) processes in order to demonstrate, first, that while these processes are idiosyncratic, they are not random, and second, that because they are not random they are of phonological interest. The particular interest that such processes give concerns 1) the relationship between general and idiosyncratic processes, 2) the possible origin of some types of phonological processes, and 3) an insight into the interrelationship between various melodic tiers such as tone, vowel quality, etc.

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## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Lanham, L.W., and K.P. Prinsloo (eds.). Language and Communication Studies in South Africa. Cape Town: Oxford University Press, 1978. \$15.50.

A survey of the linguistic setting of South Africa, including both native African languages and languages of European origin. The twelve chapters are arranged under the headings "The setting", "The main languages of South Africa", and "Language in education".

Napoli, Ponna Jo (ed.). Elements of Tone, Stress, and Intonation. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 1978. \$3.50.

A collection of five papers presented at the 1977 Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics. The papers are Larry M. Hyman "Tone and/or accent", George N. Clements "Tone and syntax in Ewe", Ilse Lehiste and Pavle Ivić "Interrelationships between word tone and sentence intonation in Serbocroation", Jean-Marie Hombert "A model of tone systems", and Ellen Schauber "Focus and presupposition: A comparison of English intonation and Navajo particle placement."

The following publications are all published by the Société d'Etudes Linguistiques et Anthropologiques de France (SELAF):

SELAF 5 rue de Marseille 75010 Paris France

Bouquiaux, Luc (ed.). Théories et méthodes en linguistique africaine: communications au llème Congrès de la SLAO Yaoundé, avril 1974.
Paris: SELAF, 1976.

A collection of nine papers on a variety of topics presented at the 1974 Congress of the West African Linguistic Society. Included with the book is a tape cassette illustrating drum language and tonal patterns discussed in two of the papers.

Faīk-Nzuji M., C. Devinettes tonales tusuwinu. Paris: SELAF, 1976.

A description of riddles in Tusumwinu, a language of Zaire, which rely on tonal clues. Included is a corpus of 200 riddles

Letouzey, René. Contribution de la botanique au problème d'une éventuelle langue pygmée. Paris: SELAF, 1976.

Documents biological terminology which is similar from one Pygmy group to another, even though the various groups now speak language very similar to or identical to non-Pygmy neighbors.