

# ARMENIAN PROSODY

## A CASE FOR PROSODIC STEMS

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- Phonological & Morphological Factors
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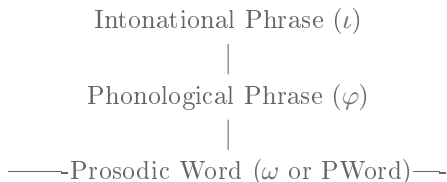
## THE MESSAGE - WHAT'S PROSODY?

- Prosodic phonology argues: (Nespor and Vogel, 1986; Selkirk, 2011)
  1. phonological processes apply within phonological domains or constituents (P-constituents)
  2. P-constituents are derived from morpho-syntactic structure

## THE MESSAGE - WHAT ARE P-CONSTITUENTS?

- The traditional hierarchy has the Prosodic Word (PWord) be the lowest morphologically-derived P-constituent

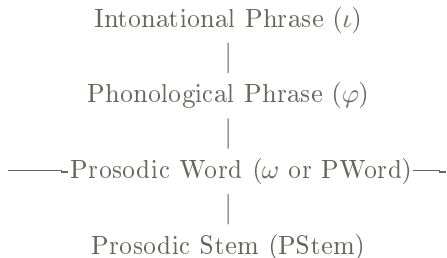
Adapted from (Selkirk, 2011;  
Downing, 1999)



## THE MESSAGE - ARE THEY ENOUGH?

- But the PStem has been argued to be an additional sublexical (below PWord) P-constituent

Adapted from (Selkirk, 2011;  
Downing, 1999)



## THE MESSAGE - IS PSTEM NEEDED?

- The PStem's existence is controversial
- Data from Armenian will show that the PStem is
  - required P-constituent
  - typological property of agglutinative languages
  - part of the Prosodic Hierarchy

## BACKGROUND ON ARMENIAN

- Armenian is a suffixing agglutinative Indo-European language
  - Standard Western Armenian (SWA)
  - Standard Eastern Armenian (SEA)
- Both dialects have two word-level prosodic processes:
  - primary stress assignment
  - destressed vowel reduction
- An adequate model for their domains and dialectal differences requires the PWord AND PStem

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## STRESS IN SWA & SEA - POSITION

- SWA and SEA have stress fall on the rightmost full vowel in the morphological word (MWord)

- (4)
- |    |                   |               |
|----|-------------------|---------------|
| a. | kórdz̄            | ‘work’        |
| b. | kordz̄-avór       | ‘worker’      |
| c. | kordz̄-avor-nér   | ‘workers’     |
| d. | kordz̄-avor-nér-ə | ‘the workers’ |

## STRESS IN SWA & SEA - POSITION

- SWA and SEA have stress fall on the rightmost full vowel in the morphological word (MWord)

(5)	a.	kórdz	‘work’
	b.	kordz-avór	‘worker’
	c.	kordz-avor-nér	‘workers’
	d.	kordz-avor-nér-ə	‘the workers’

- Sometimes it coincides with the rightmost syllable (a-c), sometimes doesn't (d)

## STRESS IN SWA & SEA - MORPHOLOGY

- It doesn't matter if the rightmost full vowel is part of the a) root, b) derivational suffix, or c) inflectional suffix.

(6)	a.	kórdz	'work'
	b.	kordz-avór	'worker'
	c.	kordz-avor-nér	'workers'



## PRIMARY STRESS - PROSODIC DOMAIN

- Assume PWord is subsection of MWord which is domain of stress (Vogel, 2008; Nespor and Vogel, 1986)
  - MWord = PWord.

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (10) \quad /kordz\text{-}a\text{-}vor\text{-}ner\}_{MW} \text{ en}/ \\
 \qquad \qquad \quad \downarrow\downarrow\downarrow \\
 \qquad \qquad [kordz\text{-}a\text{-}vor\text{-}n\acute{e}r\}_{PW} \text{ en}]
 \end{array}$$

## PRIMARY STRESS - PROSODIC DOMAIN

- Assume PWord is subsection of MWord which is domain of stress (Vogel, 2008; Nespor and Vogel, 1986)
  - MWord = PWord.

$$(11) \quad /kordz-avor-ner\}_{MW} \text{ en}/$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \downarrow\downarrow\downarrow$$

$$\quad \quad \quad [kordz-avor-nér\}_{PW} \text{ en}]$$

- For simplicity, all examples will be one MWord and one PWord
  - PWord boundaries won't be placed
  - OT constraints & ranking in appendix

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## VOWEL REDUCTION

- In SWA and SEA, stress is assigned and reassigned cyclically as each suffix is added.
- Evidence is reduction of destressed high vowels to nothing (or sometimes schwa).

- (12) a. irigún                      ‘night’  
       b. irign-adén                ‘nighttime’

# VOWEL REDUCTION - PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonological factors
  1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed

- (13) a. irigún                      ‘night’  
       b. irign-adén                ‘nighttime’

# VOWEL REDUCTION - PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonological factors

1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed

- (14)
- |    |             |             |
|----|-------------|-------------|
| a. | irigún      | ‘night’     |
| b. | irign-adén  | ‘nighttime’ |
| c. | *irgun-adén | ‘nighttime’ |

## VOWEL REDUCTION - PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonological factors
  1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed
  2. vowel must be high /i, u/

(15)	a.	mak <u>úr</u>	‘clean’
		makr-utj <u>ún</u>	‘cleaning’
	b.	azn <u>ív</u>	‘honesty’
		aznv-utj <u>ún</u>	‘honesty’
	c.	ur <u>áx</u>	‘happy’
		ur <u>ax</u> -utj <u>ún</u>	‘happiness’
		*urx-utj <u>ún</u>	‘happiness’

# VOWEL REDUCTION - PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonological factors
  1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed
  2. vowel must be high /i, u/
    - ▶ high diphthong /uj/ reduces to /u/

- (16) a. kújn 'color'
- b. kun-avór 'colorful'
- c. \*kujn-avór 'colorful'

## VOWEL REDUCTION - PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonological factors
  1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed
  2. vowel must be high /i, u/
    - ▶ high diphthong /uj/ reduces to /u/
  3. vowel is reduced to nothing OR to schwa to prevent an onset cluster

- (17) a. irigún 'night'  
 b. irign-adén 'nighttime'
- (18) a. kír 'letter'  
 b. \*kr-ítʃ 'pen'  
 c. kər-ítʃ 'pen'

# VOWEL REDUCTION - MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

- Evidence that reduction is cyclic and can apply multiple times

(19) a. lújs 'light'

# VOWEL REDUCTION - MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

- Evidence that reduction is cyclic and can apply multiple times

- (20) a. lújs 'light'
- b. lus-avór 'illuminous'

# VOWEL REDUCTION - MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

- Evidence that reduction is cyclic and can apply multiple times

- (21) a. lújs 'light'  
 b. lus-avór 'illuminous'  
 c. lus-avor-ítʃ 'illuminator'

## VOWEL REDUCTION - MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

- Evidence that reduction is cyclic and can apply multiple times

(22)	a.	lújs	‘light’
	b.	lus-avór	‘illuminous’
	c.	lus-avor-ítʃ	‘illuminator’
	d.	lus-avor-tʃ-agán	‘Apostolic’

- Some complications in multiple applications – still working on them

# VOWEL REDUCTION - FORMALIZING PHONOLOGICAL FACTORS

- More minor factors in appendix
- These factors can be generalized using either rules or constraints
- There are previous incomplete OT treatments of Armenian vowel reduction ([Khanjian, 2009](#)) that are explained in Appendix

## VOWEL REDUCTION - MORPHOLOGY

- All suffixes (derivational & inflectional) trigger stress shift
- But not all trigger vowel reduction.
- Dialects vary on these morphological factors for vowel reduction

## VOWEL REDUCTION - DERIVATION

- In SWA and SEA, derivational suffixes systematically trigger stress shift AND vowel reduction

- (23) a. amusín 'husband'  
 b. amusn-agán 'marital'

## VOWEL REDUCTION - INFLECTION

- In SWA and SEA, inflectional suffixes trigger stress shift but..
  - ▶ **SWA**: inflectional suffixes do not trigger vowel reduction (24b,25b)
  - ▶ SEA: ...

- (24) a. amus**í**n                      ‘husband’  
       b. amus**in**-n**ér**                ‘husband-PL’ (**SWA**)
- (25) a. amus**í**n                      ‘husband’  
       b. amus**in**-**ó**v                ‘husband-INSTR’ (**SWA**)

## VOWEL REDUCTION - INFLECTION

- In SWA and SEA, inflectional suffixes trigger stress shift but..
  - ▶ SWA: inflectional suffixes do not trigger vowel reduction (26,27b)
  - ▶ SEA: only vowel-initial inflectional suffixes trigger vowel reduction (26,27c)

(26)	a.	amus <b>ín</b>	‘husband’
	b.	amus <b>in-nér</b>	‘husband-PL’ (SWA & SEA)
(27)	a.	amus <b>ín</b>	‘husband’
	b.	amus <b>in-óv</b>	‘husband-INSTR’ (SWA)
	c.	amusn- <b>óv</b>	‘husband-INSTR’ (SEA)

## VOWEL REDUCTION - PROSODIC DOMAIN?

- The domain for vowel reduction includes derivational suffixes
- But some dialects (SWA) exclude all inflectional suffixes from this domain
- Others (SEA) only include V-initial inflectional suffixes
- Reduction applies if both the newly stressed vowel and the destressed vowel are within the same domain

## VOWEL REDUCTION - PROSODIC DOMAIN?

- Prosodic phonology argues: (Nespor and Vogel, 1986; Selkirk, 2011)
  1. phonological processes apply within phonological domains or constituents (P-constituents)
  2. Especially when these P-constituents is influenced by morpho-syntactic structure
- How can we model vowel reduction's domain?

# VOWEL REDUCTION - PROSODIC DOMAIN?

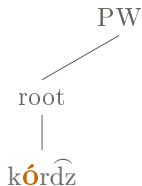
- SWA has the most extreme restrictions: no Inf
- Using its data, will the two commonly used domains work out?
  1. PWord
  2. Recursive PWord

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stress

PWord includes root



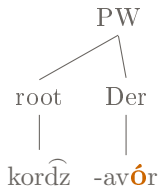
‘work’

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stress

PWord includes root, Der,



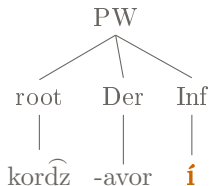
‘worker’

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stress

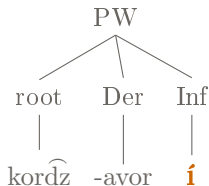
PWord includes root, Der, & Inf



‘worker-GEN’

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:  
For stress PWord includes root, Der, & Inf      For reduction? Is PWord the same?

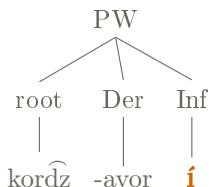


‘worker-GEN’

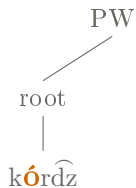
## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:  

<u>For stress</u>	<u>For reduction?</u>
PWord <u>includes</u> root, Der, & Inf	PWord includes root,



‘worker-GEN’

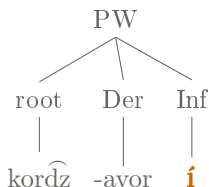


‘work’

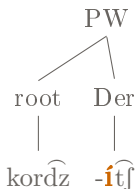
## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:  

<u>For stress</u>	<u>For reduction?</u>
PWord <u>includes</u> root, Der, & Inf	PWord includes root, Der,



‘worker-GEN’



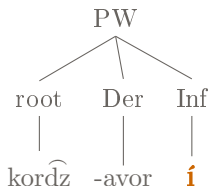
‘agent’

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stress

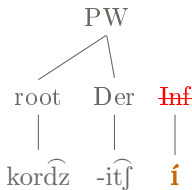
PWord includes root, Der, & Inf



'worker-GEN'

For reduction?

PWord includes root, Der, but **NOT** Inf



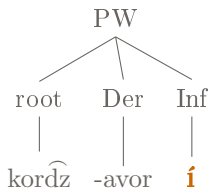
'agent-GEN'

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stress

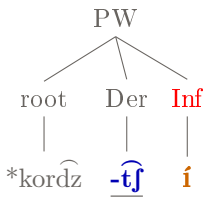
PWord includes root, Der, & Inf



‘worker-GEN’

For reduction?

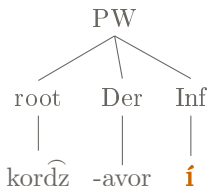
PWord includes root, Der, but **NOT** Inf – otherwise...



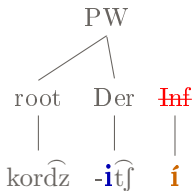
‘agent-GEN’

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN PWORD?

- One hypothetical model can be the PWord but for SWA...:

For stressPWord includes root, Der, & Inf

'worker-GEN'

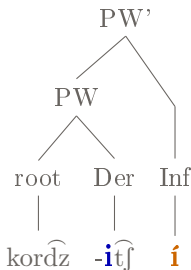
For reduction?PWord includes root, Der, but **NOT** Inf

'agent-GEN'

→ Contradiction: PWord can't be domain for both stress & reduction

# VOWEL REDUCTION IN RECURSIVE PWORD?

- Another hypothetical model can be Recursive PWords (PW') (Ito and Mester, 2009):



## Maximal PW or PW':

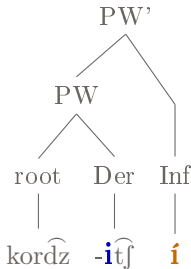
- ▶ root+Der+Inf
- ▶ Domain of stress assignment

## Minimal PW or PW':

- ▶ root+Der
- ▶ Domain of vowel reduction

## VOWEL REDUCTION IN RECURSIVE PWORD?

- Another hypothetical model can be Recursive PWords (PW') (Ito and Mester, 2009):



### Maximal PW or PW':

- ▶ root+Der+Inf
- ▶ Domain of stress assignment

### Minimal PW or PW:

- ▶ root+Der
- ▶ Domain of vowel reduction

→ Conceptually un-insightful: These P-constituents are supposed to be the same (= act the same phonologically) but it's only in name

## PSTEMS - BACKGROUND

- Model proposed here is the Prosodic Stem (PStem) ([Downing, 1999, 2006](#); [Downing and Kadenge, 2015](#))
- What is the PStem?
  - a sublexical prosodic constituent  
(= P-constituent smaller than PWord)
  - mapped from the Derivational Stem (DStem)  
(= MWord without inflection)
  - Used to model prosody in some agglutinative languages

## PSTEMS - EXAMPLE IN BANTU

- For example in KiHehe (Bantu, [Downing \(1998b\)](#)), the PStem corresponds to the DStem (root+derivational suffix)
- Total reduplication targets the PStem + its output is PStem
- Spoiler: C-initial DStems act differently from V-initial DStems

## PSTEMS - EXAMPLE IN BANTU

- **DStem** is bold, *reduplicant* in italics, PStems are underlined
- C-initial DStem: RED=PStem=DStem
- V-initial DStem: ...

(28) C-initial DStem

- |    |                                     |                       |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. | ku+ <b>haata</b>                    | ‘to ferment’          |
| b. | ku- <u>haata</u> ~ <u>haata</u>     | ‘to start fermenting’ |
| c. | * <u>ku-haata</u> ~ <u>ku-haata</u> | ‘to start fermenting’ |

## PSTEMS - EXAMPLE IN BANTU

- **DStem** is bold, *reduplicant* in italics, PStems are underlined
- C-initial DStem: RED=PStem=DStem
- **V-initial DStem**: RED=PStem BUT PStem is bigger than DStem
- PStem misaligned (included prefixes) to respect syllable edges

### (30) C-initial DStem

- a. ku+**haata** ‘to ferment’
- b. ku-haata~haata ‘to start fermenting’
- c. \*ku-haata~ku-haata ‘to start fermenting’

### (31) V-initial DStem

- a. kw+iita ‘to pour’
- b. \*kw-iita~iita ‘to pour a little’
- c. kw-iita~kw-iita ‘to pour a little’

## PSTEMS - EXTENDING TO ARMENIAN

- A similar explanation can be provided for Armenian
- Constituents:
  - **Morphological: Derivational Stem (DStem)**  
It includes root+derivational suffixes
  - **Prosodic: Prosodic Stem (PStem)**  
It is mapped from the DStem
- Reduction applies when a destressed vowel **within** the PStem lost stress to another vowel **within** the PStem

## PSTEMS - PSTEM VARIATION

- Alignment Constraints:
  - **ALIGN-(PS,R,DS,R)** or **ALIGN-PS-DS=**  
PStem aligns with DStem
  - **ALIGN-(PS,R, $\sigma$ ,R)** or **ALIGN-PS- $\sigma$ =**  
PStem aligns with end of syllable
- How to capture dialect variation in PStem size?

SWA? ALIGN-PS-DS » ALIGN-PS- $\sigma$  :

Better to align with DStem than with syllable boundaries

SEA? ALIGN-PS- $\sigma$  » ALIGN-PS-DS:

Better to align with syllable boundaries than with DStem

- Extra constraints in appendix...

## PSTEMS - ALIGNMENT WITH DER

- In SWA & SEA, derivation triggers reduction.
- The constraints for reduction are not placed
- The symbols  $\}$ ,  $>$  are used to mark Dstems & PStems
- $/\text{amusín}+\text{agan}\}/ \rightarrow [\text{amusn-agán}>]$  ‘husband-DER’

### SWA

	$\text{amusín}+\text{agan}\}$	ALIGN-PS-DS	ALIGN-PS- $\sigma$
a.	$\text{amusi.}>\text{nagán}$	*!	
b.	$\text{amusnagán}>$		


### SEA

	$\text{amusín}+\text{agan}\}$	ALIGN-PS- $\sigma$	ALIGN-PS-DS
a.	$\text{amusi.}>\text{nagán}$		*!
b.	$\text{amusnagán}>$		


## PSTEMS - ALIGNMENT WITH C-INITIAL INF.

- In SWA & SEA, C-initial inflectional suffixes don't trigger reduction.
- /amusín}+ner/ → [amusin>-nér] 'husband-PL'

### SWA

amusín}+ner	ALIGN-PS-DS	ALIGN-PS-σ
a.  amusin.>nér		
b. amusənnér>	*!	


### SEA

amusín}+ner	ALIGN-PS-σ	ALIGN-PS-DS
a.  amusin.>nér		
b. amusənnér>		*!

## PSTEMS - MISALIGNMENT WITH V-INITIAL INF.

- V-initial inflectional suffixes trigger reduction in only SEA.
- /amusín}+i/ → [amusin>-óv] (SWA) vs.  
[amusn-óv>] (SEA) ‘husband-INSTR’

### SWA

	amusín}+ov	ALIGN-PS-DS	ALIGN-PS-σ
a.	 amusi.n>óv		*
b.	amusnóv>	*!	

### SEA

	amusín}+ov	ALIGN-PS-σ	ALIGN-PS-DS
a.	amusi.n>óv	*!	
b.	 amusnóv>		*

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## MORPHOLOGY-PHONOLOGY INTERFACE - TWO CAMPS

- Cross-linguistically, the phonology-morphology interface is rife with examples of interaction between both modules ([Inkelas, 1989, 2014](#))
- Many theoretical models have been proposed to handle the interface:

## MORPHOLOGY-PHONOLOGY INTERFACE - TWO CAMPS

- Cross-linguistically, the phonology-morphology interface is rife with examples of interaction between both modules ([Inkelas, 1989, 2014](#))
- Many theoretical models have been proposed to handle the interface:
  1. Lexical phonology ([Kiparsky, 1982](#)) and Stratal OT ([Kiparsky 2000, Bermúdez-Otero prep](#))
  2. Prosodic phonology ([Nespor and Vogel, 1986](#)) and its variations or expansions ([Inkelas, 1989, 1993; Selkirk, 1996, 2011; McCarthy and Prince, 1993a,b, 1995; Downing, 2006](#))
  3. among others ...

## CONSTITUENCY ACROSS THE CAMPS

- Both theories argue that phonology applies within domains influenced by morphology
  1. **Lexical Phonology:** Phonology applies within morphological constituents (M-constituents)
  2. **Prosodic Phonology:** Phonology applies within phonological constituents (P-constituents) derived from M-constituents

## CONSTITUENCY ACROSS THE CAMPS

- Both theories argue that phonology applies within domains influenced by morphology
  1. **Lexical Phonology**: Phonology applies within morphological constituents (M-constituents)
  2. **Prosodic Phonology**: Phonology applies within phonological constituents (P-constituents) derived from M-constituents
- Best evidence for (2) is when the P-constituent isn't identical to its M-constituent because of prosodic well-formedness
  - e.g. compound prosody (Vogel, 2010), English stress domains (Inkelas, 1989), Bantu reduplication (Downing, 1999), and now Armenian stress

## CONSTITUENCY WITHIN ONE CAMP

- In prosodic phonology, there's controversy over what the possible P-constituents are:
  1. Recursion? (Selkirk, 2011; Vogel, 2012)
  2. Sublexical P-constituents? (Inkelas, 1989; Downing, 1999)
  3. And a lot more... (Hall, 1999; Hildebrandt, 2015; Trommer, 2011; Vogel, 2009; Schiering et al., 2010)...

## CONSTITUENCY WITHIN ONE CAMP

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  1. Recursion? (Selkirk, 2011; Vogel, 2012)
  2. Sublexical P-constituents? (Inkelas, 1989; Downing, 1999)
  3. And a lot more... (Hall, 1999; Hildebrandt, 2015; Trommer, 2011; Vogel, 2009; Schiering et al., 2010)...
- For (2), Armenian provides evidence for the PStem.

## ADDING PSTEM TO THE HIERARCHY

- Armenian shows that the PStem is useful, and provides evidence for its typological properties ([Downing, 2016](#))

## ADDING PSTEM TO THE HIERARCHY

- Armenian shows that the PStem is useful, and provides evidence for its typological properties (Downing, 2016)
  1. Agglutination:
    - ▶ PStem has been argued for agglutinative languages where complex morphological structure interacts with prosodic processes (Downing and Kadenge, 2015)
    - ▶ Salishan, Athapaskan, Bantu, Bengali, Japanese, ...(as cited in Downing (2016))

## ADDING PSTEM TO THE HIERARCHY

- Armenian shows that the PStem is useful, and provides evidence for its typological properties ([Downing, 2016](#))
  1. Agglutination:
  2. Derivation vs. Inflection:
    - PStem echoes difference between derivational vs. inflectional morphology ([Trommer, 2011](#))
    - This distinction isn't just descriptive shorthand for syntactic features, but is morpho-phonologically significant

## ADDING PSTEM TO THE HIERARCHY

- Armenian shows that the PStem is useful, and provides evidence for its typological properties ([Downing, 2016](#))
  1. Agglutination:
  2. Derivation vs. Inflection:
  3. Misalignment and variation:
    - ▶ Dialectal or within-language-family variation shows how misalignment can happen because of phonological well-formedness ([Downing, 1998b](#))
    - ▶ PStem is independent from its syntactic origin
    - ▶ PStem is an indirect reference to syntactic structure

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## CONCLUSION

- Armenian has two productive word-level prosodic processes:  
**primary stress assignment & destressed vowel reduction**
- An adequate model requires using the PWord and PStem
- This gives support to the PStem's typology and utility within the Prosodic Hierarchy
- Future work will require looking at more dialects, more prosody (vowel harmony), and bigger structures (compounds, multiple applications)...

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harts-**ú**m >

harts-**u**m > -n**é**r

\*harts-**ə**m-n**é**r >

‘Question?’

‘Questions?’

‘Quest**ə**ons?’

## COMPOUNDS

- Compounds have stress appear only once on the rightmost full vowel of the compound (32)
- Note that -a- is a linking vowel in compounds.

(32)	a.	aʃxár + kærutjún	‘world + writing’
	b.	aʃxar-a-kærutjún	‘geography’

## COMPOUNDS - PROSODIC DOMAIN

- Assume PWord is subsection of MWord which is domain of stress (Vogel, 2008; Nespor and Vogel, 1986)
  - MWord = PWord.
- Even compounds form one PWord
  - Against cross-linguistic tendency for compound words to be two PWords like English *bláck-bìrd* (Vogel, 2010)
- Note that compounds are part of DStem and PStem


## COMPOUNDS - REDUCTION

- Note that compounds are part of DStem and PStem because they can trigger reduction

(33)	a.	xúmp + kír	‘group + letter’
	b.	xəmp-a-kír	‘editor’

## PRIMARY STRESS - FORMALIZATION

- Primary stress pattern requires following OT constraints & ranking
- /aʃxar-ə/ ‘world-DEF’ → [aʃxár-ə]

	aʃxar-ə	*ǎ	ALIGN-STR-R	ALIGN-STR-L
a.	 aʃxár-ə		*	**
b.	áʃxar-ə		**!	
c.	aʃxar-ǎ	*!		**

- The above ALIGN constraints are shorthand for the constraints needed to model final-stress patterns in (Gordon, 2002)



## PHONOLOGY - ENCLITICS

- The PWord domain mapping can be modeled with the following undominated ALIGN constraint ([McCarthy and Prince, 1993a](#))
- Example: /kordz}MW e/ ‘work 3SG.COP’ → [kórdz}PW e]

	kordz}MW e	ALIGN(PW,R,MW,R)
a.	☞ kórdz}PW e	
b.	kórdz é}PW	*

## VOWEL REDUCTION - CHAIN SHIFT

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonotactic contexts
    1. the vowel must be destressed
    2. the vowel must be high
      - ▶ high diphthong /uj/ reduces to /u/ (chain shift)
- (35) a. kújn 'color'  
b. kun-avór 'colorful'  
c. \*kujn-avór 'colorful'

## VOWEL REDUCTION - INTERCONSONANTAL

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonotactic contexts
  1. vowel must be de-stressed, not just un-stressed
  2. the vowel must be high /i, u/
  3. the vowel must be flanked by consonants
    - ▶ Needs an onset (Downing, 1998a)
    - ▶ Doesn't apply in vowel hiatus

- (36) a.    **ú**ʒ                      'strength'  
       b.    **u**ʒ-éʏ                    'strong'  
       c.    \*ʒ-éʏ                        'strong'
- (37) a.    hasgənal**í**                    'understandable'  
       b.    hasgənal**i**-or**én**            'understandably'  
       c.    \* hasgənal-or**én**            'understandably'

## VOWEL REDUCTION - OPACITY

- In SWA & SEA, reduction has the same phonotactic contexts
  1. the vowel must be destressed
  2. the vowel must be high
    - ▶ high diphthong /uj/ reduces to /u/
  3. the vowel must be flanked by consonants
    - ▶ A later process of glide-insertion in vowel hiatus will counterbleed reduction


- (38)
- |    |                      |                  |
|----|----------------------|------------------|
| a. | hasgənalí            | ‘understandable’ |
| b. | hasgənali-[j]-orén   | ‘understandably’ |
| c. | * hasgənalə-[j]-orén | ‘understandably’ |

## VOWEL REDUCTION - FORMALIZING PHONOTACTICS

- The process can be generalized using either rules or constraints
- Because of conspiracy (schwa vs deletion), I follow [Khanjian \(2009\)](#)'s OT treatment of the phonotactic factors for vowel reduction
  - though it isn't complete

## VOWEL REDUCTION - FORMALIZING PHONOTACTICS

- Constraints used:
  1. C//V to ban complex onsets.
  2. \*<sub>N</sub>V<sub>[-stress]</sub> to handle destressing
  3. \*ə to disprefer schwas
  4. MAX[+HIGH] removes high vowels
- Though his analysis doesn't capture the flanking requirement
- Example:  $\widehat{dz}\acute{u}r$  'bent' →  $\widehat{dz}\acute{e}r$ - $\acute{i}l$  'to bend over'

	$\widehat{dz}\acute{u}r+il$	C//V	* <sub>N</sub> V <sub>[-stress]</sub>	*ə	MAX[+HIGH]
a.	$\widehat{dz}ur-\acute{i}l$		*!		
b.	 $\widehat{dz}\acute{e}r-\acute{i}l$			*	*
c.	$\widehat{dz}r-\acute{i}l$	*!			*

## MORPHOLOGY - MORE ON INFLECTION

- Nominal inflection slots:

Noun + Number + (Plural Poss) + Case + Def/Poss

- Some inflectional suffixes do not contain full vowels and thus do not participate in stress
  - ▶ Def & Poss:  $\text{ʃúk}$  'shadow' →  $\text{ʃúk-ə}$  'shadow-DEF'
- All case suffixes are full vowel-initial
  - ▶ SWA:  $\text{ʃúk}$  'shadow' →  $\text{ʃuk-í}$  'shadow-GEN'
  - ▶ SEA:  $\text{ʃúk}$  'shadow' →  $\text{ʃək-í}$  'shadow-GEN'

## MORPHOLOGY - MORE ON INFLECTION

- Nominal inflection slots:

Noun + Number + (Plural Poss) + Case + Def/Poss

- Singular is not marked while Plural has two phonologically-conditioned suppletive allomorphs, one V-initial (-er) one C-initial (-ner):
  - ▶ -er after monosyllabic bases:
    - ▶ SWA: fúk 'shadow' → fuk-er 'shadow-PL'
    - ▶ SEA: fúk 'shadow' → fək-er 'shadow-PL'
  - ▶ -ner after polysyllabic bases: moruk-ner 'beard-PL'
    - ▶ SWA & SEA: morúk 'beard' → moruk-nér 'beard-PL'

## MORPHOLOGY - MORE ON INFLECTION

- Nominal inflection slots:

Noun + Number + (Plural Poss) + Case + Def/Poss

- Colloquial dialects include an extra inflectional slot for plural possessive suffixes and this is C-initial
  - WA & EA: gadu-s ‘cat-1SGPoss’ or ‘my cat’
  - WA (Beirut) : gadu-ni-s ‘cat-PlPoss-1SGPoss’ or ‘our cat’
  - EA (Karchevan): gadu-na-s ‘cat-PlPoss-1SGPoss’ or ‘our cat’

## PSTEMS - MISALIGNMENT IS ONLY ‘EXFIXATION’

- With V-initial inflectional, PStem is never smaller than DStem in either dialect  
 = PStem boundary > never shifts to the left


### SEA

	amusín}+ov	ALIGN-PS-σ	ALIGN-PS-DS
a.	amusi.n>óv	*	
b.	☞ amusnóv>		*
c.	☹ amusi.>nóv		*

## PSTEMS - MISALIGNMENT IS ONLY ‘EXFIXATION’

- Easy fix to that:
  - **MAX DS-PS=**  
 Every element of the DStem has a correspondent in the PStem (when you factor out reduction).
  - **DEP DS-PS=**  
 Every element of the PStem has a correspondent in the DStem.
- Ranking:
  - **SWA & SEA:** MAX DS-PS » DEP DS-PS
    - PStem is never smaller than DStem
    - = PStem boundary > never shifts to the left

### SEA

		ALIGN PS-σ	ALIGN PS-DS	MAX DS-PS	DEP DS-PS
	amusín}+ov				
a.	amusi.n>óv	*			
b.	 amusnóv>		*		*

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

### 1. Reduction in other hammock dialects

- ▶ Besides SWA and SEA, Armenian encompasses a large number of dialects across Asia Minor, the Middle East, and the Near East such that they also have the hammock stress pattern (Vaux, 1998).
- ▶ How do these dialects (extinct or still extant) treat vowel reduction?

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects
  - ▶ Some Armenian dialects have developed fixed penultimate stress pattern instead of final stress, e.g. Kharabagh Armenian.
  - ▶ How does this affect reduction?

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects
3. Vowel harmony

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects
3. Vowel harmony
  - ▶ Some dialects developed vowel harmony patterns such that some dialects target the root while others the word (Vaux, 1998).
  - ▶ How well does the domain of vowel harmony line up with PWord, PStem, or even PRoot?

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects
3. Vowel harmony
4. Recursive vs Restructured PStems

## FUTURE WORK & QUESTIONS

1. Reduction in other hammock dialects
2. Stress and reduction in penult dialects
3. Vowel harmony
4. Recursive vs Restructured PStems
  - ▶ Larger morphological words show multiple applications of vowel reduction all within the DStem/PStem:  
$$/\underline{\text{lujs}}\text{-avor-}\underline{\text{it}}\text{f-agan-utjun}/ \rightarrow [\underline{\text{lus}}\text{-avor-}\underline{\text{t}}\text{f-agan-utjún}]$$

‘Apostolicism’
  - ▶ Does this require recursion extended to the PStem (Selkirk, 2011) or the existence of prosodic structures in abstract derivation (Hall, 1999)?

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