

(Un)Accentedness is not enough: The typology of lexical accent competition

Ekaterina Medvedeva, Prithivi Pattanayak, Razieh Shojaei, Eva Zimmermann

Universität Leipzig

mfm 29, May 26th, 2022

Lexical Accent Competition

(1) Colville (Salishan; Mattina, 1973)

(ul. accent surfaces= V, ul. accent not realized= V, surface accent= V)

- a. ʔa'c-n-t-iʔ → No ul. accent: Initial default
[ʔ á 'cəntiʔ] 'Look at it!' (pl.) (M:72)
- b. ʔas-t-w í lx → One ul. accent: surfaces
[ʔstw í lx] 'He gets better' (M:28)
- c. x^w ú k-n-t- í x^w → Multiple ul. accents: LMost/root 'wins'
[x^w ú kəntx^w] 'You pull it out' (M:27)
- d. x^w ú k-n- ú -n-t- í x^w → Same root 'loses' against different affix
[x^wkn ú nt x^w] 'You managed to pull it out' (M:27)

☞ morphemes can be **dominant** and override the expected winner of an accentual competition

Lexical Accent Competition: More ‘accentual’ morphemes

(2) Greek stress: Masculine nouns (Revithiadou, 1999, 93+94)

- a. anθrop-os → Antepenult default
á nθropos ‘man’-nom.sg
- b. anθrop-‘u → one pre-accenting morpheme
anθr ó pu ‘man’-gen.sg
- c. kl í van-‘u → stem accent wins
kl í vanu ‘kiln’-gen.sg
- d. uran ‘-‘u → post-accenting stem wins
uran ú ‘sky’-gen.sg

- ☞ ‘accentual’ morphemes in (2): accented (2-c), pre-accenting (2-b-d), and post-accenting (2-d)
- ☞ the type of accentual behaviour required by a morpheme is orthogonal to the **lexical accent competition**

Main Claim

- ☞ Lexical accent competition is best analysed with **gradient phonological representations** that allow different degrees of accentual dominance/recessiveness and avoid specific undergeneration problems alternative accounts face.
- ☞ This claim is based on an **representative empirical survey** of lexical accent systems in the languages of the world that transcends existing empirical evidence
 - ☞ across languages
 - ☞ within one language (=a full picture including 'exceptions').

(extending the studies in, for example, Revithiadou (1999); Alderete (2001); Vaxman (2016); Yates (2017), or Bogomolets (2020))

1. A Typology of Lexical Accent
2. Empirical picture and existing alternatives?
3. Theoretical Proposal: Gradient Representations
 - 3.1 Case study: Japanese
 - 3.2 Case study: Ukrainian
4. Conclusion

A Typology of Lexical Accent

A database of lexical accent competition (in progress)

- ☞ includes languages with **competition of underlying prominence** = abstracting away from whether this is stress/tone/'pitch accent'
- ☞ baseline assumption: binary distinction into **non-accentual** morpheme and **accentual** morpheme
- ☞ a single parameter **LMost/RMost** (or 'Outermost') decides the competition in case multiple accentual morphemes are present:
Dec.W.Mc
- ☞ a (potentially different!) parameter decides the **default** accent placement (in case no lexical accent is present)
- ☞ if this is insufficient: a hierarchy of **accentual morpheme classes** is assumed

The methodology: Finding morpheme classes in a toy example: Hypothesis A

(=Underlying accentedness already determined from combination with accent-less roots/suffixes)

- (3) a. kul-s **ú** – [kuls **ú**]
 b. kul-p **á** -s **ú** – [kulp **á** su]
 c. kul-t **ó** -p **á** – [kult **ó** pa]

→ Hypothesis: **RMost**

→ **DomAfx**: pá > sú

→ **ExtraDomAfx**: tó > pá

- (4) Resulting hierarchy of MClasses

1	2	3	4 (unacc)
tó >	pá >	sú >	kul
A1 >	A2 >	A3 >	R1

- (5) Database parameters

N°.Acc.M.Classes:	4
N°.M.Classes	1 root, 3 affix
Dec.within.M.class	RMost

The methodology: Finding morpheme classes in a toy example: Hypothesis B

- (6) a. kul-s **ú** – [kuls **ú**]
 b. kul-p **á** -s **ú** – [kulp **á** su]
 c. kul-t **ó** -p **á** – [kult **ó** pa]
- Hypothesis: **LMost**
 → LMost
 → LMost

- (7) Resulting hierarchy of MClasses

1	2 (unacc)
tó, pá, sú	kul
A1	R1

- (8) Database parameters

N°.Acc.M.Classes:	2
N°.M.Classes	1 root, 1 affix
Dec.within.M.class	LMost

The methodology: Finding morpheme classes

- we always went for the hypothesis with the **fewest morpheme classes** (i.e. Hypothesis B in our toy example)
- the result of applying this algorithm of MClasses is often in **contrast to the surface** generalization

(e.g. Spokane (Bates and Carlsen, 1989; Carlsen, 1989) is usually described as having a hierarchy of 5 (=3 suffix and 2 root) morpheme classes but ended up having only 2 in our database)

Our (preliminary) database in numbers

- ☛ 27 languages with lexical accent competition and **at least three accentual morpheme classes** (i.e. a binary distinction into accented/unaccented+directional decision is not sufficient)
- ☛ languages from 10 language families and 3 isolates; distributed across 5 macro-areas (mainly Eurasia and North America)
- ☛ 10x conflicting directionality
- ☛ 12x decision within MClass resolved by LMost (=BAP)

(Preliminary) results: 8 languages with 2 accentual classes

☞ showing that directionality is sufficient: no dominance

				N°	DecMClass	Default
1.	Spokane	spo	Salishan	2	RMost	RMost
2.	Thompson River Salish	thp	Salishan	2	RMost	LMost
3.	Abkhaz	abk	Abkhaz-Adyge	2	LMost*	RMost
4.	Afar	aar	Afro-Asiatic	2	RMost	Penult
5.	Bikol		Austronesian	2	RMost	n.d.
6.	Pashto	pbt	Indo-European	2	RMost	RMost
7.	Cupeno Y	cup	Uto-Aztecan	2	LMost	LMost
8.	Goizueta Basque	eus	-	2	RMost	n.d.

(Preliminary) results: 19 languages with more than 2 accentual classes

☞ some mechanism of (degrees of) dominance is necessary

				N°	Dec	Def	
1.	Bulgarian	bul	Indo-European	3	LMost	Penult	Dominance
2.	Hittite	hit	Indo-European	3	LMost	LMost	
3.	M. Greek	ell	Indo-European	3	LMost	Antepenult	
4.	Nez Perce	nez	Sahaptian	3	LMost	Penult	
5.	Sahaptin	yak	Sahaptian	3	RMost	n.d.	
6.	Colville	oka	Salishan	3	LMost	LMost	
7.	Shuswap	shs	Salishan	3	LMost	n.d.	
8.	Parabel Selkup	sel	Uralic	3	LMost	n.d.	
9.	Choguita Rarámuri	tar	Uto-Aztecan	3	LMost	Postin	
10.	A'ingae	con	-	3	LMost	Penult	
11.	Russian (N, infl)	rus	Indo-European	4	LMost	LMost	Degrees of D.
12.	Vedic Sanskrit	san	Indo-European	4	LMost	LMost	
13.	Arapaho	arp	Algic	4	RMost	Penult	
14.	Japanese	jpn	Japonic	4	OMost	Antepenult	
15.	Cupeño A	cup	Uto-Aztecan	4	RMost	LMost	
16.	Coastal Bizkaian Basque	eus	-	4	LMost	RMost	
17.	Moses Columbian Salish	thp	Salishan	5	RMost	RMost	
18.	Lithuanian	lit	Indo-European	5	LMost	LMost	
19.	Ukrainian (N, infl)	ukr	Indo-European	8	LMost	LMost	

(Preliminary) results: Accentual behaviour

☞ 13 languages show accentual morphemes that are not accented themselves

		preaccenting	postaccenting	subtractive	other
1.	Japanese	✓	✓	✓	attractive
2.	Bulgarian	✓	✓		
3.	M. Greek	✓	✓		
4.	Cupeño A	✓			
5.	Cupeño Y	✓			
6.	A'ingae	✓		✓	
7.	Vedic Sanskrit	✓		✓	
8.	Arapaho	✓		✓ (L+NL)	
9.	Coastal Bizkaian Basque	✓		✓	
10.	Choguita Rarámuri				unstressable
11.	Moses Columbian Salish				local win
12.	Bikol				shift by 1
13.	Lithuanian				local attractive

Empirical picture and existing alternatives?

The empirical results of our typology

Degrees of dominance

A theoretical account needs to allow for different degrees of dominance for accentual morphemes.

Different accentual behaviour

A theoretical account needs to predict different accentual morphemes (at least: accented, pre-/post-accenting, attractive, subtractive, unaccentable)

Zooming into the results: Some predictions of classical theories

		Lexical Phonology (e.g. Halle and Mohanan, 1985)	Head Dominance (Revithiadou, 1999)	Anti-faithfulness (Alderete, 2001)
A. Af\leq3	Affixes can be \pm accentual or 'dominant' accentual.	Restr.A	Restr.A	Restr.A
B. Rt\leq2	Roots can be \pm accentual.	Restr.B		Restr.B
C. HdWin	The accentual property of the morphological head always wins over accentual patterns of non-heads.		Restr.C	

Evaluating some theoretical predictions (19 lgs)

	Af \leq 3	Rt \leq 2	HdWin
Bulgarian	✓	✓	✓
Colville	✓	✓	✓
Greek (Modern)	✓	✓	✓
Hittite	✓	✓	✓
Shuswap	✓	✓	✓
A'ingae	✓	✓	☹
Choguita Rarámuri (Tarahumara)	✓	✓	☹
Nez Perce	✓	✓	☹
Parabel Selkup	✓	✓	☹
Vedic Sanskrit	✓	☹	☹
Lithuanian	☹	✓	☹
Arapaho	☹	✓	☹
Russian (N, infl)	☹	✓	☹
Sahaptin (Northwest) Yakima	☹	✓	☹
Coastal Bizkaian Basque	☹	✓	✓
Cupeno A	☹	✓	✓
Moses Columbian Salish	☹	☹	✓
Ukrainian (N, infl)	☹	☹	☹
Japanese	☹	☹	✓
Problematic	10	15	9

"Degrees of dominance"

- 🍃 various proposals allow (in principle) gradient degrees of accented-ness (e.g. Halle and Vergnaud (1987); Idsardi (1991); Inkelas (2015) or Vaxman (2016))
- we argue for an OT-implementation
 - that is fully parallel and hence allows **roots to have different degrees of dominance**
 - where **all phonological elements** can have gradient presence to predict all accentual behaviours

Theoretical Proposal: Gradient Representations

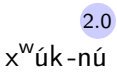
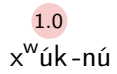
GSR: Background assumption

- ☞ phonological elements can have different underlying **activities** that result in **gradient constraint violations** (Smolensky and Goldrick, 2016; Rosen, 2016)
- differences between ‘accentual morpheme classes’ correspond to **activity differences** in underlying representations (of tones, feet, moras,...)
- one simple mechanism: the **most active one wins**
- ☞ harmony evaluation based on Harmonic Grammar where constraints with weighted constraints to predict threshold effects (Legendre et al., 1990; Potts et al., 2010)

Accent competition in GSR

👉 deletion of the more active element is more costly: **Max** >> **LMost**

(9)

		MAX	LMOST	
	 $x^w \acute{u}k - n\acute{u}$	2	1	
👉 a.	 $x^w \acute{u}k - n\acute{u}$	-1	-1	-3
b.	 $x^w \acute{u}k - n\acute{u}$	-2		-4

Two case studies: Different lexical accent competition patterns and their GSR accounts

(10)

	Japanese	Ukrainian
N°.Acc.M.Classes:	4	8
Accentual classes:	accented attractive pre-accenting subtractive	accented
Representations in a GSR account:	3: $H_{1.5} > H_1 > H_{0.5}$ 2: $\mu_2 > \mu_1$	8: $H_{0.8} > \dots > H_{0.1}$

Accentual affixes in Japanese (Kawahara, 2015, 468+472)

different affix-induced accent patterns follow from:

- i **gradiently active** H-tone and TBU ($=\mu$)
- ii **associated or floating** H/ μ

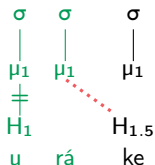
(11) Suffix classes in Japanese: representational assumption

Recessive		Dominant	Recessive Preaccenting
σ μ_1 ga	σ σ μ_1 μ_1 $H_{0.5}$ ta ra	σ / \ μ_1 μ_1 H_1 ppo i	σ μ_1 $H_{0.5}$ si
Usurper	Subtractive	Attractive	Dominant Preaccenting
σ μ_2 te	σ σ μ_1 μ_1 μ_2 te ki	σ σ μ_1 μ_1 μ_2 H_1 mo no	σ μ_1 $H_{1.5}$ ke

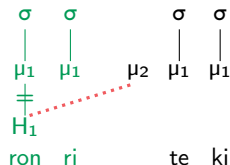
Accentual affixes in Japanese

- 🍃 **root** and suffix accent competition:
the strongest H/ μ are associated

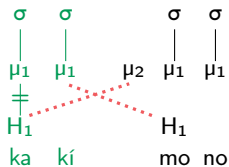
1 Preaccentuation



2 Subtraction



3 Attraction: Subtraction+Preaccentuation



The paradigm: Feminine, 1st Declination class(Butska, 2002)

	$\sqrt{\text{article}}$	$\sqrt{\text{height}}$	$\sqrt{\text{foot}}$	$\sqrt{\text{head}}$	$\sqrt{\text{base}}$
sg nom	statt ^j -á	vysot-á	noɦ-á	ɦolov-á	osnóv -a
gen	statt ^j -í	vysot-ý	noɦ-ý	ɦolov-ý	osnóv -y
dat	statt ^j -í	vysot ^j -í	noz ^j -í	ɦolov ^j -í	osnóv ^j -i
acc	statt ^j -ú	vysot-ú	nóɦ -u	ɦólov -u	osnóv -u
inst	statt ^j -éju	vysot-óju	noɦ-óju	ɦolov-óju	osnóv -oju
loc	statt ^j -í	vysot ^j -í	noz ^j -í	ɦolov ^j -í	osnóv ^j -i
voc	—	vysót -o	nóɦ -o	ɦólov -o	osnóv -o
pl nom	statt ^j -í	vysót -y	nóɦ -y	ɦólov -y	osnóv -y
gen	statt ^j -ěj	vysót-∅	n ^j íɦ -∅	ɦol ^j ív -∅	osnóv -∅
dat	statt ^j -ám	vysót -am	noɦ-ám	ɦólov -am	osnóv -am
acc	statt ^j -í	vysót -y	nóɦ -y	ɦólov -y	osnóv -y
inst	statt ^j -ámi	vysót -amy	noɦ-ámy	ɦólov -amy	osnóv -amy
loc	statt ^j -áx	vysót -ax	noɦ-áx	ɦólov -ax	osnóv -ax
voc	—	vysót -y	nóɦ -y	ɦólov -y	osnóv -y

The GSR representations

	\emptyset $\sqrt{\text{article}}$	$H_{0.2}$ $\sqrt{\text{height}}$	$H_{0.3}$ $\sqrt{\text{foot}}$	$H_{0.45}$ $\sqrt{\text{head}}$	$H_{0.6}$ $\sqrt{\text{base}}$	
sg.nom	stattj- á	vysot- á	noh- á	fiolov- á	osnóv -a	$H_{0.8}$
sg.gen	stattj- í	vysot- ý	noh- ý	fiolov- ý	osnóv -y	
sg.dat	stattj- í	vysotj- í	nozj- í	fiolovj- í	osnóvj -i	
sg.inst	stattj- éju	vysot- óju	noh- óju	fiolov- óju	osnóv -oju	
sg.loc	stattj- í	vysotj- í	nozj- í	fiolovj- í	osnóvj -i	
pl.dat	stattj- ám	vysót -am	noh- ám	fiólov -am	osnóv -am	$H_{0.6}$
pl.inst	stattj- ámi	vysót -amy	noh- ámy	fiólov -amy	osnóv -amy	
pl.loc	stattj- áx	vysót -ax	noh- áx	fiólov -ax	osnóv -ax	
sg.acc	stattj- ú	vysot- ú	nóh -u	fiólov -u	osnóv -u	$H_{0.5}$
sg.voc	–	vysót -o	nóh -o	fiólov -o	osnóv -o	$H_{0.1}$
pl.nom	stattj- í	vysót -y	nóh -y	fiólov -y	osnóv -y	
pl.acc	stattj- í	vysót -y	nóh -y	fiólov -y	osnóv -y	
pl.voc	–	vysót -y	nóh -y	fiólov -y	osnóv -y	
pl.gen	stattj- éj	vysót- \emptyset	nj'íh - \emptyset	fioljív - \emptyset	osnóv - \emptyset	\emptyset

The GSR analysis: Competition

	\emptyset $\sqrt{\text{article}}$	$H_{0.2}$ $\sqrt{\text{height}}$	$H_{0.3}$ $\sqrt{\text{foot}}$	$H_{0.45}$ $\sqrt{\text{head}}$	$H_{0.6}$ $\sqrt{\text{base}}$	
sg.reg	statt ⁱ -á	vysot-á	noh-á	holov-á	osnov-a	$H_{0.8}$
pl.obl	statt ⁱ -ám		noh-ám	holov-am	osnov-am	$H_{0.6}$
pl.reg	statt ⁱ -í	vysót-y	nóh-y	hólov-y	osnov-y	$H_{0.1}$

- 👄 a single underlying accent: no competition ■
- 👄 stem's accent \geq affix' accent: stem wins ■
- 👄 affix' accent has higher activity than stem's accent:
 - 👄 affix wins if activity difference is ≥ 0.3 ■
- 👄 affix' accent has higher activity than stem's accent:
 - 👄 affix wins if activity difference is ≥ 0.3 ■
 - 👄 but stem still wins if activity difference is < 0.3 ■
(=favored by higher-weighted $\text{Max}H_{st}$)

The GSR analysis: Coalescence

	\emptyset $\sqrt{\text{article}}$	$H_{0.2}$ $\sqrt{\text{height}}$	$H_{0.3}$ $\sqrt{\text{foot}}$	$H_{0.45}$ $\sqrt{\text{head}}$	$H_{0.6}$ $\sqrt{\text{base}}$	
sg.reg	statt ^j -á	vysot-á	nofi-á	fiolov-á	osnov-a	$H_{0.8}$
pl.obl	statt ^j -ám	vysót-am	nofi-ám	fiólov-am	osnov-am	$H_{0.6}$
pl.reg	statt ^j -í	vysót-y	nófi-y	fiólov-y	osnov-y	$H_{0.1}$

- 🍃 the expectation if stem's accent $H_{0.2}$ and affix' accent $H_{0.6}$: affix wins
- 🍃 additional relevant mechanism: **a threshold effect that allows coalescence:**
- ➔ if the joined activity of stem&affix accent does not exceed 0.8, realization of both coalesced tones is possible on the preferred stem-position without MaxH violations

Conclusion

Summary and Discussion

- our (preliminary) database of lexical accent competition shows
 - that **different degrees of dominance** exist
 - there are **various attested accentual behaviours**
- these empirical facts are predicted in an account where all phonological elements can have different **degrees of activity**

References

- Alderete, John (2001), *Morphologically governed accent in Optimality Theory*, Routledge, New York.
- Bates, Dawn and Barry F. Carlsen (1989), 'Prosodic structure in Spokane morphology', *Working papers of the Linguistics Circle of the University of Victoria* **8**, 75–96.
- Bogomolets, Ksenia (2020), *Lexical Accent in Languages with Complex Morphology*, PhD thesis, University of Connecticut.
- Butska, Luba (2002), *Faithful Stress in Paradigms: Nominal Inflection in Ukrainian and Russian*, PhD thesis, Rutgers University.
- Carlsen, Barry F. (1989), 'Reduplication and stress in Spokane', *International Journal of American Linguistics* **55**, 204–213.
- Halle, Morris and Jean-Roger Vergnaud (1987), *An essay on stress*, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Halle, Morris and K. P. Mohanan (1985), 'Segmental phonology of Modern English', *Linguistic Inquiry* **16**, 57–116.
- Ildsardi, William (1991), *Stress in Interior Salish*, in 'Proceedings of CLS 27', CLS, Chicago, pp. 246–260.
- Inkelas, Sharon (2015), *Confidence scales: A new approach to derived environment effects*, in Y. E. Hsiao and L.-H. Wee, eds, 'Capturing Phonological Shades Within and Across Languages', Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne, pp. 45–75.

- Kawahara, Shigeto (2015), The phonology of Japanese accent, *in* H.Kubozono, ed., 'The Handbook of Japanese Language and Linguistics: Phonetics and Phonology', de Gruyter Mouton, Berlin, pp. 445–492.
- Legendre, Geraldine, Yoshiro Miyata and Paul Smolensky (1990), 'Harmonic grammar – a formal multi-level connectionist theory of linguistic well-formedness: Theoretical foundations', *Proceedings of the 12th annual conference of the cognitive science society* pp. 388–395.
- Mattina, Anthony (1973), Colville grammatical structure, Master's thesis, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI.
- Potts, Christopher, Joe Pater, Karen Jesney, Rajesh Bhatt and Michael Becker (2010), 'Harmonic grammar with linear programming: From linear systems to linguistic typology', *Phonology* pp. 77–117.
- Revithiadou, Anthi (1999), *Headmost Accent Wins: Head Dominance and Ideal Prosodic Form in Lexical Accent Systems*, Holland Academic Graphics (LOT Dissertation Series), The Hague.
- Rosen, Eric (2016), Predicting the unpredictable: Capturing the apparent semi-regularity of rendaku voicing in Japanese through Harmonic Grammar, *in* E.Clem, V.Dawson, A.Shen, A. H.Skilton, G.Bacon, A.Cheng and E. H.Maier, eds, 'Proceedings of BLS 42', Berkeley Linguistic Society, Berkeley, pp. 235–249.
- Smolensky, Paul and Matthew Goldrick (2016), 'Gradient symbolic representations in grammar: The case of French liaison', Ms, Johns Hopkins University and Northwestern University, ROA 1286.
- Vaxman, Alexandre (2016), How to Beat without Feet: Weight Scales and Parameter Dependencies in the Computation of Word Accent, PhD thesis, University of Connecticut.
- Yates, Anthony David (2017), Lexical Accent in Cupeño, Hittite, and Indo-European, PhD thesis, University of California at Los Angeles.