

Morphological Analysis

Basic techniques:

- Start with 2 forms that minimally differ
- Whatever differs both phonologically & semantically is likely a morpheme
- *Caveat*: a morpheme with 2 different forms depending on context (*i.e.* allomorphy, such as English plurals *-s*, *-es*, *-en*)
- Factor one hypothesized morpheme out of the data set
- Move on to a 2nd pair hypothesizing a 2nd morpheme
- Whenever possible, find a word containing both morphemes
- Continue this process until each morpheme in every word is accounted for
- Note any generalizations (recurring patterns) wherever supported by the data

Practice dataset 1: Pulaar verbs

yam	'healthy'	furda	'be grey'
'oold'a	'be yellow'	yamda	'be healthy'
fiβa	'tie'	woyna	'cause to cry'
nyaamda	'eat up completely'	taarta	'unwind'
βila	'hang up'	βilta	'take down'
hulna	'frighten'	nyaama	'eat'
fiβta	'untie'	hula	'fear'
yarda	'drink up completely'	nyaamna	'feed'

How many affix morphemes are present in this data?

Practice dataset 2: Gã

mífókò	'I have not wept'	mífoŋ	'I will not weep'
ebaádú	'he will cultivate'	wobaálá	'we will sing'
obaálá	'you will sing'	eyóókò	'he has not recognized'
mídúkò	'I have not cultivated'	obaáhao	'you will worry'
mádú	'I will cultivate'	eláŋ	'he will not sing'
wófóŋ	'we will not weep'	odúŋ	'you will not cultivate'
olákò	'you have not sung'	máfó	'I will weep'

Do all the morphemes reflect a "1-form to 1-meaning" correspondence?

Practice dataset 3: Tohono O'odham

<i>Imperfective</i>	<i>Perfective</i>	
hi:nk	hi:n	'to bark'
pisalt	pisal	'to weigh'
gatwid	gatwi	'to shoot'
he:edkad	he:edka	'to smile'
cicwi	cicwi	'to play'
wacwi	wacwi	'to bathe'

What characterizes the morphological process in this data?

Practice dataset 4: *-en* in English

bright	brighten	shiny	*shinyen	cat	*catten
black	blacken	grey	*greyen	Nick	*Nicken
red	reddden	blue	*bluen	snack	*snacken
thick	thicken	thin	*thinnen	crash	*crashen
short	shorten	tall	*tallen	pick	*picken
dark	darken	dreary	*drearyen	what	*whaten

What phonological and/or syntactic requirements does *-en* impose on stems?

Practice dataset 5: Somali

(the diacritic ´ indicates a high tone)

a. ínan	'boy'	inán	'girl'
nácas	'stupid man'	nacás	'stupid woman'
daméer	'young male donkey'	dameér	'young female donkey'
darmáan	'colt'	darmaán	'filly'
qaálin	'young male camel'	qaalín	'young female camel'
b. kálax	'ladle'	kaláx	'ladles'
bállí	'water reservoir'	ballí	'water reservoirs'
túug	'thief'	tuúg	'thieves'
soomaáli	'Somali man'	soomaali	'Somali people'

What semantically & phonologically characterizes the morphological process in this data? Is (a)/(b) derivation of inflection?