



The phonetics of derivation

Segmentability effects on the acoustic duration of affixed words

Simon David Stein Ingo Plag





Introduction



Frequency and duration



Frequency and duration

Lexical frequency

How often does a linguistic unit occur in a language?

Acoustic duration

How long do we pronounce linguistic units?



Frequency and duration

Lexical frequency

How often does a linguistic unit occur in a language?

higher

Acoustic duration

How long do we pronounce linguistic units?

shorter





Whole-word storage





complex words are stored unanalyzed



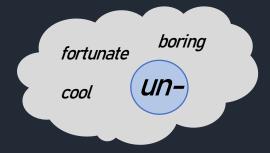
Whole-word storage





complex words are stored unanalyzed

Compositional models





morphemes are stored separately



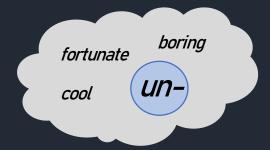
Whole-word storage





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Compositional models





morphemes are stored separately

Dual-route models





both morphemes and complex words are stored



Whole-word storage



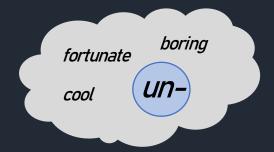


complex words are stored unanalyzed



durations will be shorter the higher the word frequency

Compositional models



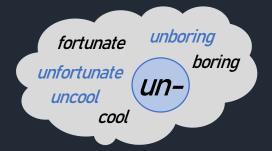


morphemes are stored separately



durations will be shorter the higher the base frequency

Dual-route models





both morphemes and complex words are stored





Dual-route models

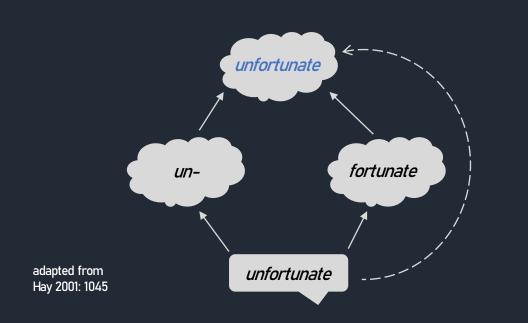




both morphemes and complex words are stored





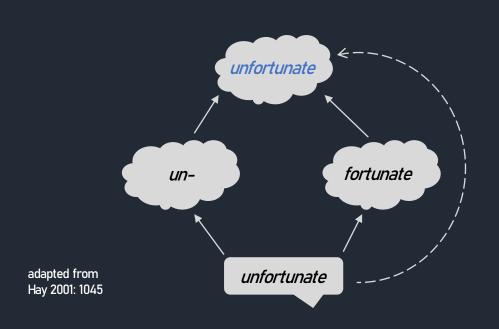


fortunate unboring boring unfortunate uncool cool

both morphemes and complex words are stored



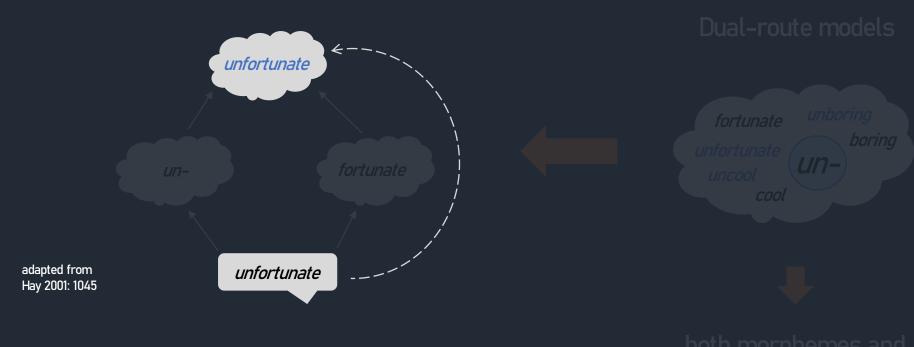






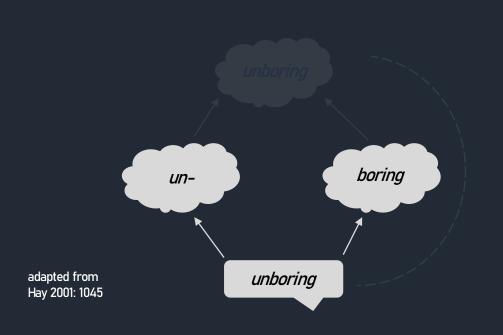
Word	Frequency	Segmentability	Prediction	
fortunate	6000	lavi	shorter	
unfortunate	6915	low	duration	
boring	7483	himb	longer	
unboring	4	high	duration	





Word	Frequency	Segmentability	Prediction	
fortunate	6000	Lave	shorter	
unfortunate	6915	low	duration	
	4			

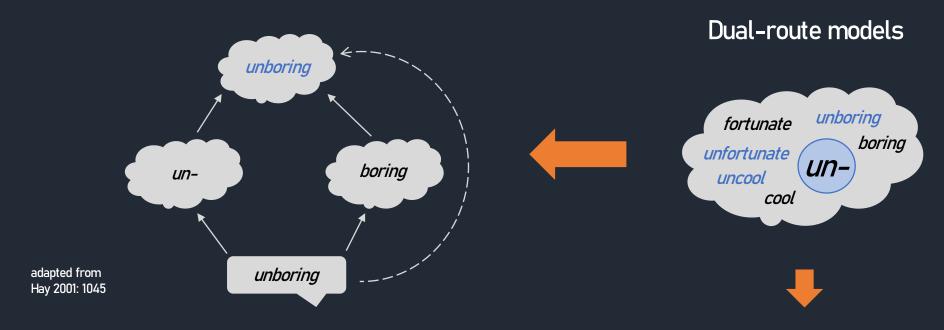






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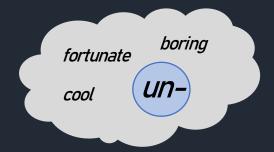


complex words are stored unanalyzed



durations will be shorter the higher the word frequency

Compositional models



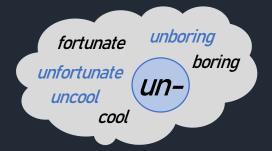


morphemes are stored separately



durations will be shorter the higher the base frequency

Dual-route models





both morphemes and complex words are stored



Introduction



Previous research



Caselli et al. 2016

- inflectional suffixes ing, -ed, and -s
- > evidence for both whole-word storage and composition
 - → higher base frequency → shorter word duration
 - higher word frequency → shorter word duration



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Hay 2003, 2007

segmentability effects for un- and -ly



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Hay 2003, 2007

segmentability effects for un- and -ly

Plag and Ben Hedia 2018

- segmentability effects for un- and dis-
- > null effects for negative *in*-, locative *in*-, and -*ly*



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segmentability effects for un- and -ly

Plag and Ben Hedia 2018

- > segmentability effects for *un* and *dis*-
- > null effects for negative *in*-, locative *in*-, and -*ly*



Contradictory evidence:

Why do the frequency measures sometimes show and sometimes not show effects?





Hypothesis 1

Higher word frequency - shorter duration



Hypothesis 1

Higher word frequency - shorter duration

Hypothesis 2

Higher base frequency → shorter duration



Hypothesis 1

Higher word frequency → shorter duration

Hypothesis 2

Higher base frequency → shorter duration

Hypothesis 3

Higher relative frequency → longer duration

≈ more segmentability



Hypothesis 1

Higher word frequency - shorter duration of word, base, and affix

Hypothesis 2

Higher base frequency → shorter duration of word, base, and affix

Hypothesis 3

Higher relative frequency → longer duration of word, base, and affix ≈ more segmentability





Data collection

- > AudioBNC
- > Forced Alignment
- Praat textgrids
- manual cleaning of results



Data collection

Affixes N

- > AudioBNC
- Forced Alignment
- > Praat textgrids
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- *-ness* 363 *pre* 123
- -less 216 dis- 689
- -wise 289 un- 960
- *-ize* 476 *in-* 342
- *-ation* 3979



Data collection

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Affixes N

-ness	363	pre-	123
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-ation	3979		

Modeling

- multiple linear regression in R using lm-function
- variable transformations
- trimming of datasets
- backwards exclusion of non-significant variables



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Responses

- > word duration
- affix duration
- base duration



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Responses

- word duration
- affix duration
- base duration

Predictors

- word frequency
- base frequency
- relative frequency



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Responses

- word duration
- affix duration
- base duration

Predictors

-ation 3979

- > word frequency
- base frequency
- relative frequency

Covariates

- speech rate
- number of syllables
- biphone probability sum
- bigram frequency



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Affixes N

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Modeling

- multiple linear regression in R using lm-function
- variable transformations
- trimming of datasets
- backwards exclusion of non-significant variables

Responses

- word duration
- affix duration
- base duration
- separate models for durations and frequencies: 81 models

Predictors

- > word frequency
- base frequency
- relative frequency

Covariates

- speech rate
- number of syllables
- biphone probability sum
- bigram frequency



Frequency and segmentability effects

duration	word	affix	base
affix		-ness	
word frequency			
base frequency			
relative frequency			

p < .001 expected direction



Frequency and segmentability effects

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize	
word frequency						
base frequency						
relative frequency						

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize		-ation			
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction

unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less								
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-				
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									

p < .001 expecte p < .001 unexpe

expected direction unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base		
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation			
word frequency											
base frequency											
relative frequency											
affix		-less			pre-			-wise			
word frequency											
base frequency											
relative frequency											

p < .001 expected direction
p < .001 unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-							
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									

p < .001 p < .001 expected direction unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base		
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation			
word frequency											
base frequency											
relative frequency											
affix		-less			pre-			-wise			
word frequency											
base frequency											
relative frequency											
affix		dis-			un-						
word frequency											
base frequency											
relative frequency											

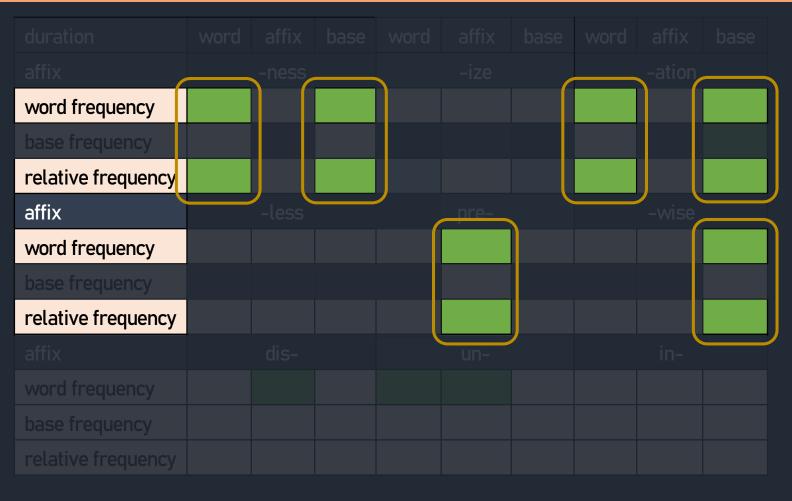
p < .001 expected direction
p < .001 unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness		-ize				-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										

p < .001 expected direction
p < .001 unexpected direction





p < .001 (p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness		-ize				-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										

p < .001 expected direction
p < .001 unexpected direction



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...



Prefixes vs. suffixes

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										



expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ... the type of affix?



Prefixes vs. suffixes

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less						-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
word frequency										
relative frequency										

suffixes

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix?





Prefixes vs. suffixes

word frequency							
relative frequency							C.
			pre-		-wise	F	refixes
word frequency							
relative frequency							
affix	dis-		un-		in-		
word frequency							
base frequency							
relative frequency							

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix?



Affix length

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-			un-			in-	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length?



Affix length

word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							
			un-		in-		ar
word frequency							100
relative frequency							

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix?

the affix length?

51

p < .001 p < .001 expected direction

unexpected direction



Affix length

				word	affix	base	
					-ation		around
word frequency							250-300 ms
relative frequency							
					-wise		
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							

p < .001 p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length?



Manual resegmentation

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										



p < .001 p < .001 expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? X

×



Manual resegmentation

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		-less			pre-			-wise		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										
affix		dis-			un-			in-		
word frequency										
base frequency										
relative frequency										



p < .001

p < .01

expected direction unexpected direction weaker effect

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation?





The prosodic hierarchy

- U Phonological utterance
- Intonation phrase
- Phonological phrase
- (Prosodic word
- Foot
- **o** Syllable



The prosodic hierarchy

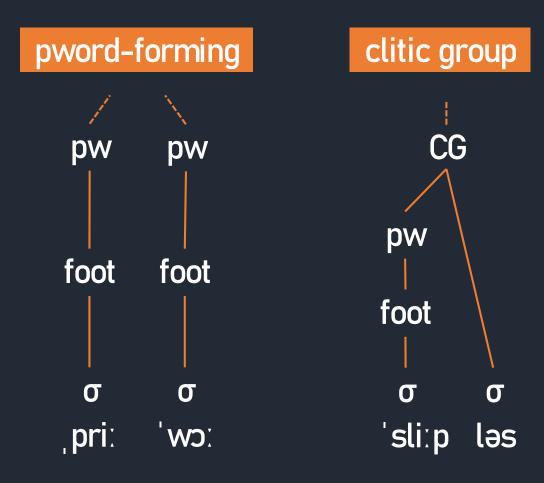
- U Phonological utterance
- Intonation phrase
- Phonological phrase
- ω Prosodic word
- Foot
- Syllable



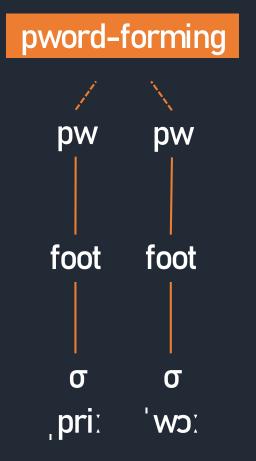
pword-forming

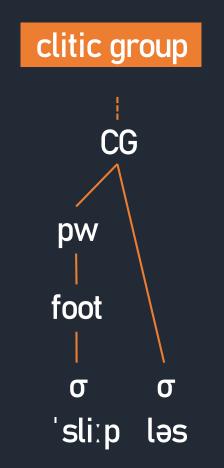






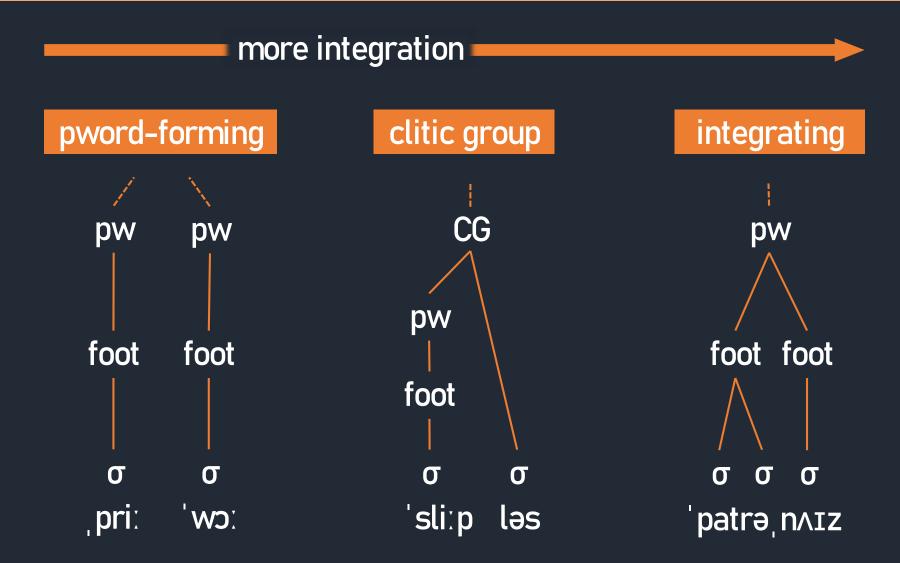




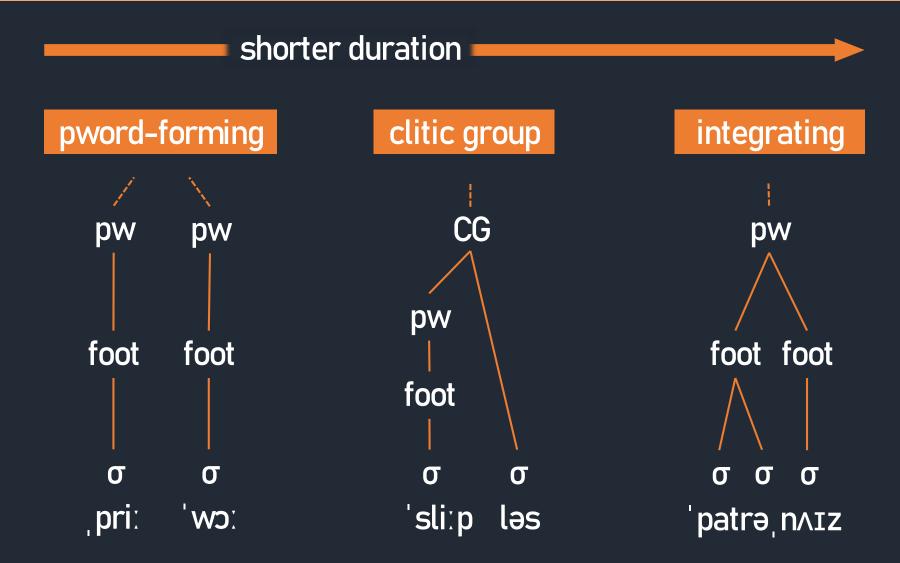














Type of prosodic integration

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-			un-			in-	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									



p < .001

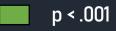
expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure?



word frequency							
relative frequency							
			pre-		-wise		prosodic
word frequency							words
relative frequency							
	dis-		un-		in-		
word frequency							
relative frequency							



p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? ×

×

×



	word	affix	base	affix	base		
		-ness		cliti			
word frequency				grou	05		
relative frequency							
		-less		pre-			
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? ×

x

×



Type of prosodic integration

		word	affix	base	word	affix	base
			-ize		-ation		
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							

integrating

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure?



Type of prosodic integration

		word	affix	base	word	affix	base
			-ize				
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							

integrating

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure?

×

x

^

×



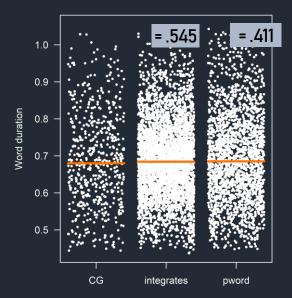
- > Additional predictor: type of prosodic integration
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- > N = 7441



Meta-model including all affixes

- > Additional predictor: type of prosodic integration
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- N = 7441

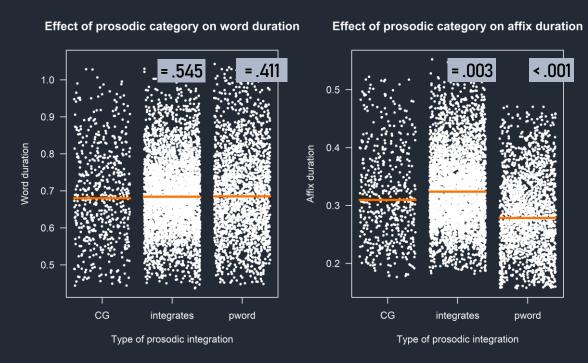
Effect of prosodic category on word duration



Type of prosodic integration

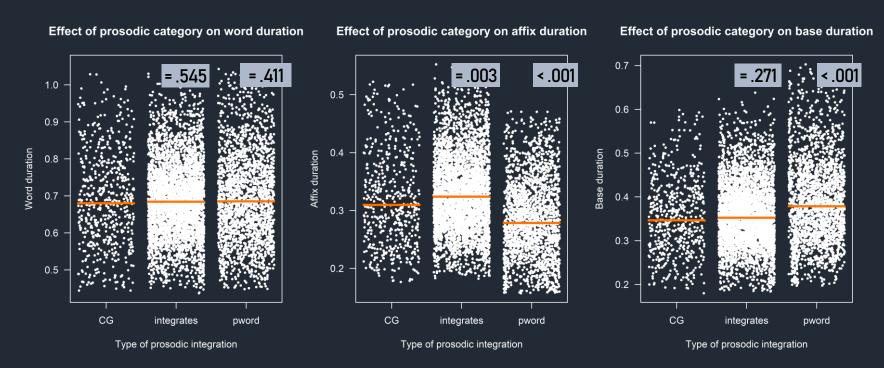


- Additional predictor: type of prosodic integration
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- N = 7441



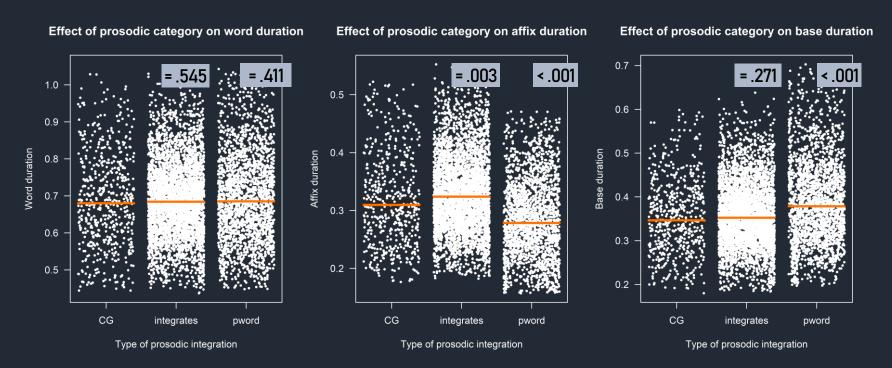


- Additional predictor: type of prosodic integration
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- N = 7441





- > Additional predictor: type of prosodic integration
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- > N = 7441
- > This does not support the predictions of pword integration.



Conclusion



Summary



Summary

In sum, we have a mixed picture.

- > Some results are in line with Caselli et al. 2016:
 - > All three frequency measures can independently predict duration.
 - > This is evidence for both types of storage in the mental lexicon, as well as for segmentability effects.



Summary

In sum, we have a mixed picture.

- > Some results are in line with Caselli et al. 2016:
 - > All three frequency measures can independently predict duration.
 - > This is evidence for both types of storage in the mental lexicon, as well as for segmentability effects.
- However, there are also null effects, which require explanation.
 - So far, we cannot attribute the differences to:
 - the domain of durational measurement (word, affix, base)
 - the type of affix (prefix, suffix)
 - the prosodic category (pword, clitic group, integrating).

Conclusion



Discussion



Discussion

Our findings imply that ...

> morphological structure can at least partly influence the phonetic output.



Discussion

Our findings imply that ...

- morphological structure can at least partly influence the phonetic output.
- models that prohibit post-lexical access of morphological information (e.g. Kiparsky 1982, Levelt et al. 1999, Bermúdez-Otero 2018) should be revised.



Discussion

Our findings imply that ...

- morphological structure can at least partly influence the phonetic output.
- > models that prohibit post-lexical access of morphological information (e.g. Kiparsky 1982, Levelt et al. 1999, Bermúdez-Otero 2018) should be revised.
- we need to investigate further factors that might cause frequency effects to surface or to not surface.





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Appendix



Informativity

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-			un-			in-	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									



p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity?



Measured in two ways:



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- productivity



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy

H: The higher the semantic information load, the longer the duration.



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

Conditional affix probability C_{aff}

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- > productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy

H: The higher the semantic information load, the longer the duration.



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- clearness of semantic meaning
- type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- > productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy

H: The higher the semantic information load, the longer the duration.

Conditional affix probability C_{aff}

Affix probability given preceding word:

SUFFIX EXA	AMPLE	PREFIX EXAMPLE					
Α	В	Α	В	С			
random	ize	her	pre-				



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- > type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- > productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy

H: The higher the semantic information load, the longer the duration.

Conditional affix probability C_{aff}

Affix probability given preceding word:

SUFFIX EX	AMPLE	PREFIX EXAMPLE				
Α	В	Α	В	С		
random	ize	her	pre-			



$$C_{aff} = \frac{Freq(AB)}{Freq(A)}$$



Measured in two ways:

Semantic information load score

5-point Likert scales coded for:

- > clearness of semantic meaning
- > type of base: free vs. bound root
- semantic transparency
- > productivity



Affix-specific semantic segmentability hierarchy

H: The higher the semantic information load, the longer the duration.

Conditional affix probability C_{aff}

Affix probability given preceding word:

SUFFIX EXA	AMPLE	PREFIX EXAMPLE				
Α	В	Α	В	С		
random	ize	her	pre-			

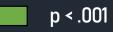


$$C_{aff} = \frac{Freq(AB)}{Freq(A)}$$

H: The higher the conditional affix probability, the shorter the duration.



duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-			un-			in-	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									



p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity?

×

×

×



duration	word	affix	base					
affix		-ness			gh	-ation		
word frequency				information load				
base frequency				10	au			
relative frequency								
				pre-				
word frequency								
relative frequency								
				un-				
word frequency								
relative frequency								

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity?

×

×

×

×



		word	affix	base	word	affix	base
			-ize			-ation	
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							
word frequency							
relative frequency							

low information load

p < .001

p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity? ×

x

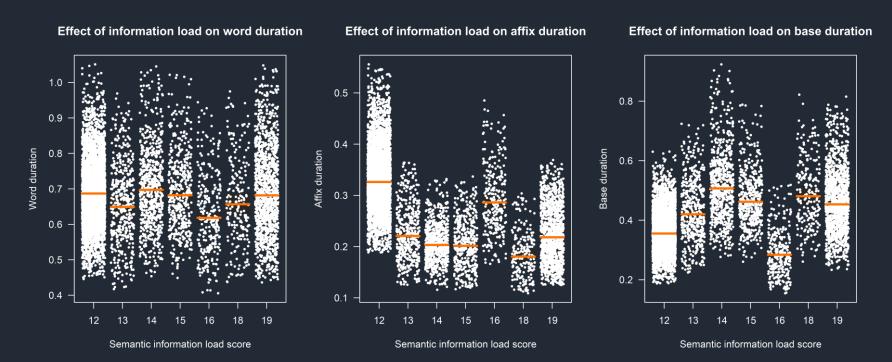
×

×



Meta-model including all affixes

- > Additional predictor: semantic information load score
- > Additional covariate: number of timing slots
- > N = 7441
- This does not support the predictions of semantic information load.





Informativity: Conditional affix probability

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix	-ness			-ize			-ation		
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		-less			pre-			-wise	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									
affix		dis-			un-			in-	
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									



p < .001

expected direction unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity?

Appendix



Informativity: Conditional affix probability

duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix		-ness			-ize			-ation	
affix probability									

affix	-less		pre-		-wise	
affix probability						

affix	dis-	un-	ir) -
affix probability				

p < .001 positive correlation

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? the affix length? the segmentation? prosodic structure? affix informativity?



Updated summary

In sum, we have a mixed picture.

- > Some results are in line with Caselli et al. 2016:
 - > All three frequency measures can independently predict duration.
 - > This is evidence for both types of storage in the mental lexicon, as well as for segmentability effects.
- However, there are also null effects, which require explanation.
 - So far, we cannot attribute the differences to:
 - > the domain of durational measurement (word, affix, base)
 - the type of affix (prefix, suffix)
 - the prosodic category (pword, clitic group, integrating).



Updated summary

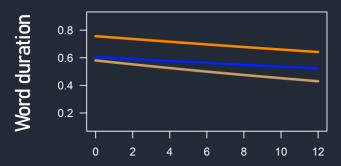
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- > Some results are in line with Caselli et al. 2016:
 - > All three frequency measures can independently predict duration.
 - > This is evidence for both types of storage in the mental lexicon, as well as for segmentability effects.
- However, there are also null effects, which require explanation.
 - So far, we cannot attribute the differences to:
 - the domain of durational measurement (word, affix, base)
 - the type of affix (prefix, suffix)
 - the prosodic category (pword, clitic group, integrating)
 - > the informativity of the affix (information load, probability).



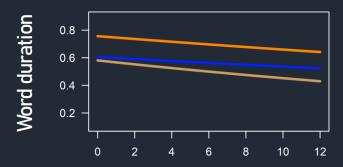


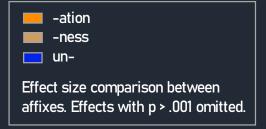
Log word frequency



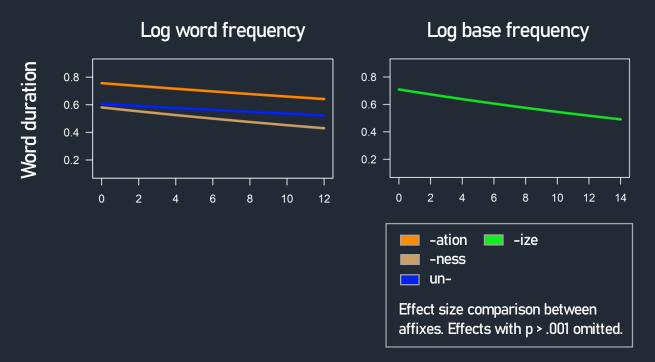


Log word frequency

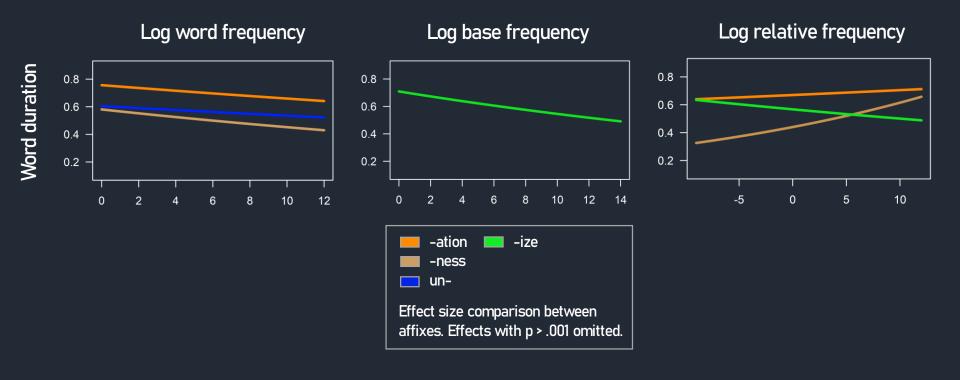




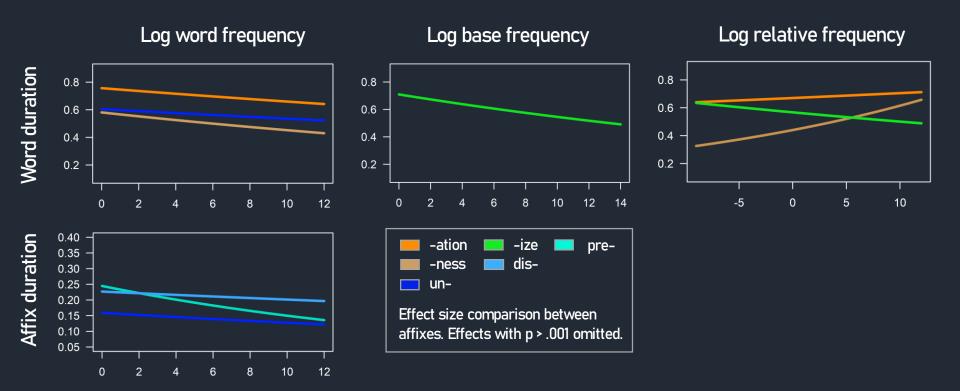




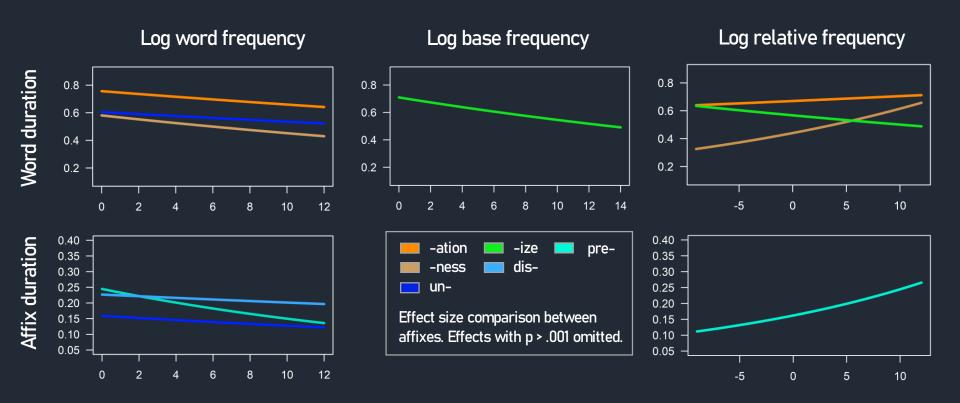




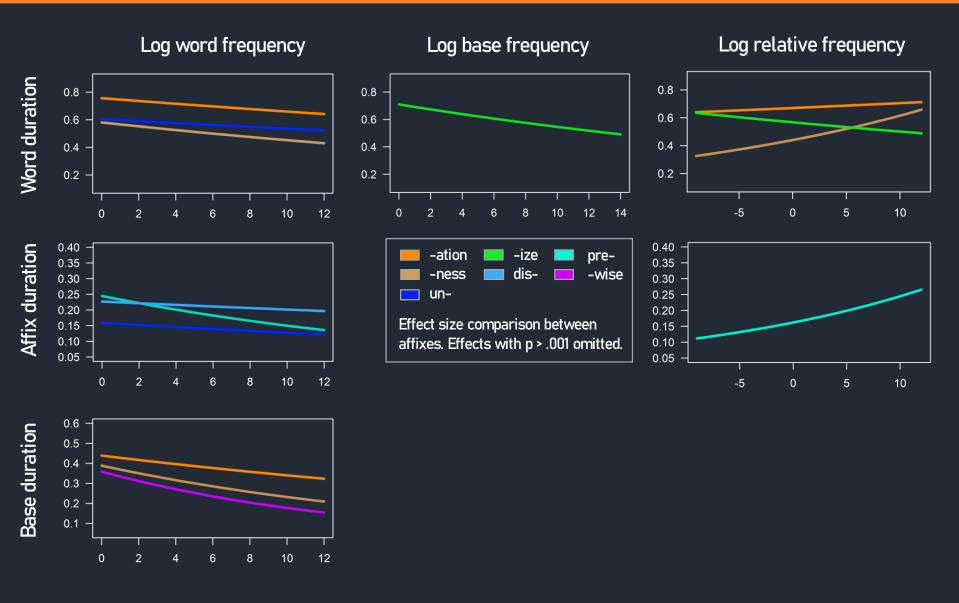




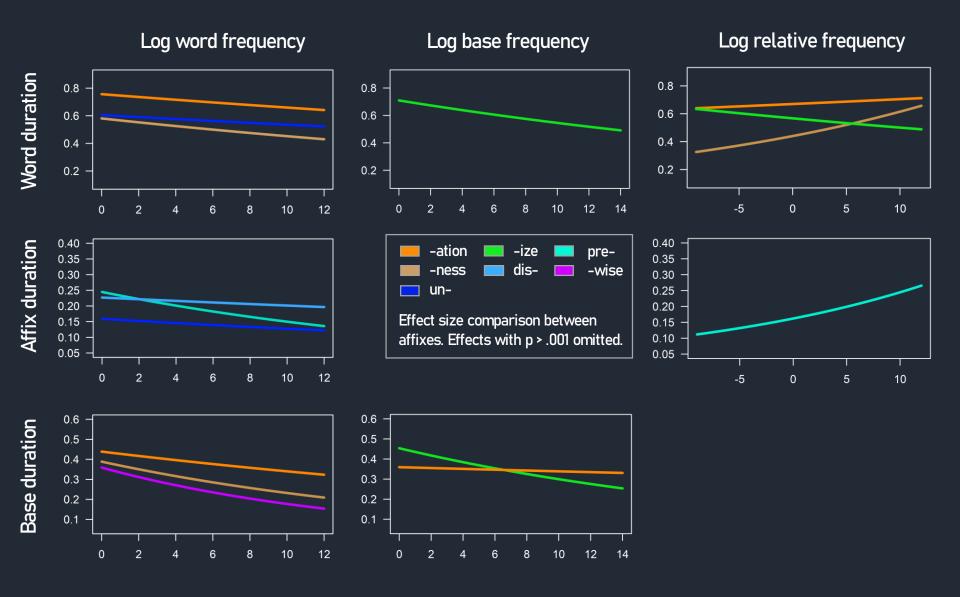




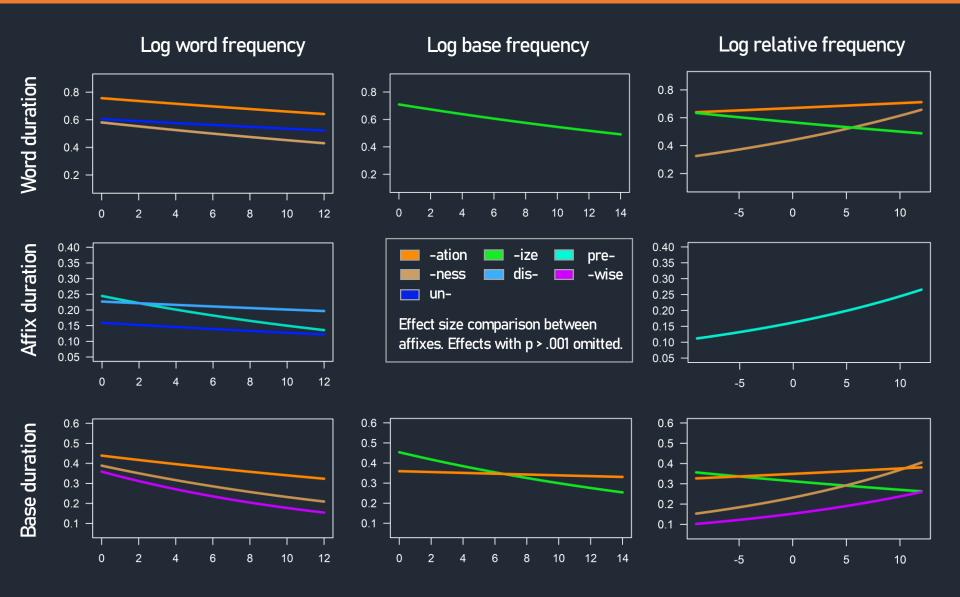














The prosodic hierarchy

- U Phonological utterance
- Intonation phrase
- Phonological phrase
- Prosodic word
- Foot
- σ Syllable



The prosodic hierarchy

- U Phonological utterance
- IP Intonation phrase
- Phonological phrase
- (ω) Prosodic word
- Foot
- Syllable

Some pword-diagnostics

- onset or coda conditions, LOI-violations
- > ambisyllabicity
- stress and relative prominence
- > trisyllabic laxing, vowel reduction
- > minimal word requirements
- > compositionality, type of base



The prosodic hierarchy

- U Phonological utterance
- | Intonation phrase
- Phonological phrase
- $\left(oldsymbol{\omega}
 ight)$ Prosodic word
- Foot
- Syllable

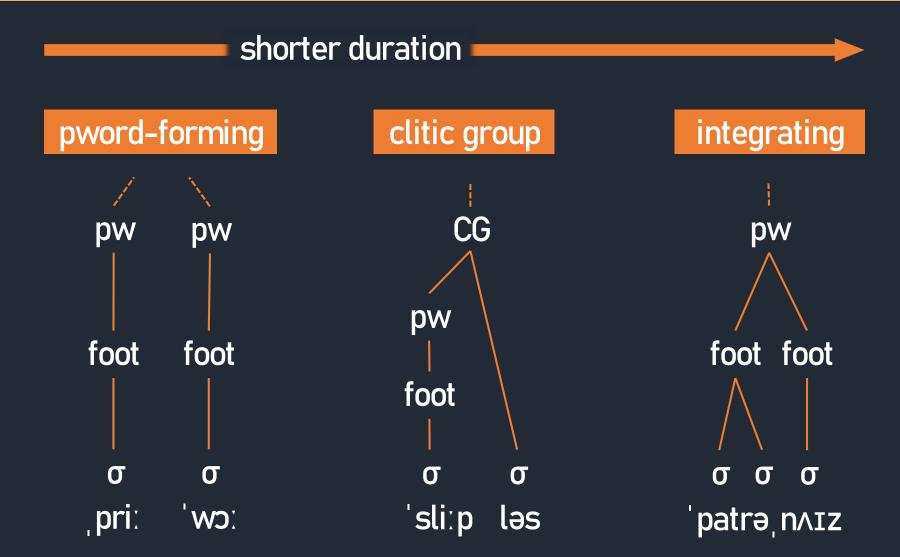
Some pword-diagnostics

- onset or coda conditions, LOI-violations
- > ambisyllabicity
- stress and relative prominence
- > trisyllabic laxing, vowel reduction
- > minimal word requirements
- > compositionality, type of base

Morpho-prosodic alignment

 A morpheme cannot include multiple pwords, but a pword can include multiple morphemes.







Type of prosodic integration

