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Stress variation in English complex words

Part 1 (Stress in monomorphemic words)

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- Foot structure
- Syllabic weight
- Extrametricality

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- Extrametricality

Part 2 (Stress variation in complex words)

- Across-type variation
- Within-type variation (case study: -(at)ory)

Part 1: Stress in monomorphemic words

Lexical stress in English

- Please, take a look at the following words. Do you think English has a systematic way to assign stress to words in isolation?

Lexical stress in English

 Please, take a look at the following words. Do you think English has a systematic way to assign stress to words in isolation?

consider corrupt vulgar synopsis adapt

maintain asterisk metropolis sincere common extreme consensus breakfast handsome contradict obey promise (N) promise (V) torment (N) torment (V)

English stress rules

What do we need to know to apply the stress rules of English?

- (1) The notion of **foot**
- (2) The notion of syllabic weight
- (3) The notion of **extrametricality**

- The **Prosodic Hierarchy** describes a series of increasingly smaller constituents of a prosodic utterance, each nested within the next highest constituent. (e.g. Selkirk 1984)

- According to the **culminative property**, each constituent can have no more than one head.

















- Every unit of weight in the rhyme is called a **mora** (μ).



- Long vowels consist of two moras.



```
Phonological word (ω)
Foot (Σ)
Syllable (σ)
Mora (μ)
```

A **foot** (Σ) consists of a stressed syllable together with any adjacent unstressed syllables (if there are any) either on the left, or on the right.

- Left-headed binary foot (trochee)

- Left-headed binary foot (trochee)



- Left-headed binary foot (trochee)



- Right-headed binary foot (iamb)

- Left-headed binary foot (trochee)



- Right-headed binary foot (iamb)



- A foot without unstressed syllables may form a trochee or an iamb, provided that it consists of a **heavy syllable**.

F | (**strike**)

- A foot without unstressed syllables may form a trochee or an iamb, provided that it consists of a **heavy syllable**.

- Otherwise, a foot without unstressed syllables is left unparsed (**degenerate foot**).

English distinguishes between two types of syllables, **light** and **heavy**.

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English distinguishes between two types of syllables, **light** and **heavy**.

- Heavy syllables consist of a long vowel or diphthong in the nucleus or a coda.



- Light syllables consist of a short vowel in the nucleus and no coda.

- Heavy syllables consist of a long vowel or diphthong in the nucleus or a coda.

- Light syllables consist of a short vowel in the nucleus and no coda (i.e. only one mora).

- Heavy syllables consist of a long vowel or diphthong in the nucleus or a coda (i.e. at least two moras).

- How many **moras** (or morae) do the syllables in the following words have?

May	busy
strength	widow
lion	window
I	umbrella

- How many **moras** (or morae) do the syllables in the following words have?

mei	bı.zı
strεŋθ	ซeb.เพ
laıən	wın.dəʊ
ai	∧m.brɛ.lə

(3) Extrametricality

- **Extrametrical** elements are systematically ignored with regards to stress assignment (Liberman 1975).

(3) Extrametricality

- **Extrametrical** elements are systematically ignored with regards to stress assignment. (Liberman 1975).
- An extrametrical element must be **peripheral** in its domain (i.e. it can only mark the left or rightmost element of a syllable, foot, word, etc).








(1) Final syllables are extrametrical.

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- Construct a left-headed binary foot (a **trochee**) over the right edge of the word.

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- Construct a left-headed binary foot (a **trochee**) over the right edge of the word.

(3) Syllable structure:

- If the last syllable is **heavy**, align the head of the foot on that syllable.

(2) Construct a left-headed binary foot over the right edge of the word.

(3) If the last syllable is heavy, align the head of the foot on that syllable.

ə dzen də

agenda

(2) Construct a left-headed binary foot over the right edge of the word.

(3) If the last syllable is heavy, align the head of the foot on that syllable.

ə dʒɛn <də>

agenda

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bæ lə lai kə

balalaika

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bæ lə lai <kə>

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ə me rı kə

America

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America

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si nə mə

cinema

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sı nə <mə>

cinema

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(3) If the last syllable is heavy, align the head of the foot on that syllable.



cinema

ə plai *apply*

əb zaːv observe

ε dıt *edit* ı mæ dʒın observe

The English Stress Rule (for verbs and adjectives) Based on Hayes (1982, 1995)

(1) Final consonants are extrametrical.

(2) Word structure:

- Construct a left-headed binary foot over the right edge of the word.
- (3) Syllable structure:
 - If the last syllable is heavy, align the head of the foot on that syllable.

ə plai *apply*

əb zaːv observe

ε dıt *edit* ı mæ dʒın observe

ə plai *apply*

əb z3: <v>
observe

ε dı <t> ι mæ dʒı <n> edit imagine

ə pl**ai** apply

əb z3: <v>
observe



ε dı <t> ι mæ dʒı <n> edit imagine



ε dı <t> ι mæ dʒı <n> edit imagine



ε dı <t> ı mæ dʒı <n> edit imagine





ı mæ dʒı <n> *imagine*







(examples from Spencer 1996)

consider corrupt vulgar synopsis adapt maintain asterisk metropolis sincere common extreme consensus breakfast handsome contradict obey promise (N) promise (N) torment (N) torment (V)

kənsidə kərʌpt vʌlgə sınɒpsis ədæpt

(1) Either final syllables (of nouns) or final consonants (of verbs and adjectives) are **extrametrical**.

kənsıdə kərʌp<t> vʌlgə sınɒp<sıs> ədæp<t> (verb)
(verb or adjective)
(adjective)
(noun)
(verb)

(1) Either final syllables (of nouns) or final consonants (of verbs and adjectives) are **extrametrical**.

(2) Construct a **left-headed binary foot** over the right edge of the word.

(3) If the last syllable is **heavy**, align the head of the foot on that syllable.

kən('sı.də) kə('rʌp)<t> ('vʌl.gə) sı('nɒp)<sıs> ə('dæp)<t>

(light last syllable)(heavy last syllable)(light last syllable)(heavy last syllable)(heavy last syllable)
mein('tein) ('æ.stə)<risk> mı('trp.pə)<lis> sin('siə) ('kp.mə)<n>

ık(ˈstriː)<m> kən('sɛn)<səs> ('brɛk)<fəst> ('hænd.sə)<m> ('tɔː)<mɛnt> kpn.trə(dık)<t>

ə('beı) ('prp)<mis> ('prp.mi)<s> to:('mɛn)<t>

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- Experiments with nonce words (e.g. Domah, Plag and Carroll 2014) suggest that English stress does not follow deterministic rules.

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- Many lexical exceptions.

- Experiments with nonce words (e.g. Domah, Plag and Carroll 2014) suggest that English stress does not follow deterministic rules.

- Nevertheless, they show that the interaction of **syllabic weight** and **extrametricality** at the word level plays an important role in stress assignment.

Part 2: Stress variation in complex words

Some English words whose stress cannot be generated by the proposed stress rules:

original medieval primitive significant reluctant engineer racketeer referee employee questionnaire interesting contrariwise

Some English words whose stress cannot be generated by the proposed stress rules:

origin**al** mediev**al** primit**ive** signific**ant** reluct**ant** engin**eer** racket**eer** refer**ee** employ**ee** questionn**aire** interest**ing** contrari**wise**

- Stress-bearing suffixes:

engin**eer** racket**eer** refer**ee** employ**ee** questionnaire

- Stress-bearing suffixes:

engi(n**éer**) racke(t**éer**) refe(r**ée**) emplo(y**ée**) question(n**áire**)

- Extrametrical suffixes:

origin**al** mediev**al** primit**ive** signific**ant** reluct**ant**

- Extrametrical suffixes:

origin<**al>** academic<**al>** primit<**ive>** signific<**ant>** reluct<**ant>**

- Extrametrical suffixes:

o.ri.gi.n<al> a.ca.de.mi.c<al> pri.mi.t<ive> sig.ni.fi.c<ant> re.luc.t<ant>

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- Extrametrical suffixes:

o(rí.gi)n<**al>** a.ca(dé.mi)c<**al>** (prí.mi)t<**ive**> sig(ní.fi)c<**ant>** re(lúc)t<**ant>**

- **Stress-shifting suffixes** cause a change of the stress from one syllable in the base to a different one in the derivative.

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- The stress rule applies to each successive morphological domain in a **cyclic** fashion. (Kiparsky 1982)

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product

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(pró)<duct>

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```
(pró) < duct > \rightarrow productive
```

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```
(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive >
```

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 $(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive > \rightarrow productivity$

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 $(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive > \rightarrow produc(tí.vi) < ty >$

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 $(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive > \rightarrow produc(tí.vi) < ty >$

engine

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(én)<gine>

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 $(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive > \rightarrow produc(tí.vi) < ty >$

(én)<gine> \rightarrow engineer

- **Stress-shifting suffixes** cause a change of the stress from one syllable in the base to a different one in the derivative.

```
(pró) < duct > \rightarrow pro(dúc)t < ive > \rightarrow produc(tí.vi) < ty >
```

```
(\acute{en}) < gine > \rightarrow engi(n\acute{er})
```

- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

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- Stress rules do *not* apply cyclically.

intrist *interest*

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- Stress rules do not apply cyclically.

('ın)<trist> *interest*

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- Stress rules do not apply cyclically.

 $('n) < trist> \rightarrow intristing$ interest interesting

- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

- Stress rules do not apply cyclically.

 $('n) < trist> \rightarrow *in('tris.ti) < \eta > interest$ interesting
- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

- Stress rules do not apply cyclically.

('ın)<trist> → *in('tris)t<**ıŋ**> *interest interesting*

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[('ın)<trist>] *interest*

= cyclic domain

- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

- Stress rules do not apply cyclically.

[[('ın)<trist>] **ιŋ**]β interesting

= cyclic domainβ = non-cyclic domain

- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

- Stress rules do *not* apply.

- Stress-preserving suffixes attach to free bases.

- **Stress-preserving suffixes** keep the same stressed syllable in the base and in the derivative.

- Stress rules do *not* apply.

- Stress-preserving suffixes attach to free bases.
- More **productive** than stress-shifting suffixes.

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

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- Case study: -(at)ory

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- Case study: -(at)ory
 - · Production experiment held in Cambridge.
 - · 31 University students.
 - · 25 sentences with -(at)ory derivatives.
 - Part of the project PROS 1, directed by Pr. Dr.
 Sabine Arndt-Lappe (DFG Research Unit FOR 2373 Spoken Morphology).

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

- Most common variation patterns:

```
invéstig[ə]tory
congrátul[ ]tory
célebr[ə]tory
círcul[ə]tory
```

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invéstig[ə]tory ~invéstig[eı]tory congrátul[]tory~congrátul[eı]tory célebr[ə]tory ~célebr[eı]tory círcul[ə]tory ~círcul[eı]tory

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- Most common variation patterns:

invéstig[ə]tory ~invéstig[eɪ]tory ~investig[éɪ]tory congrátul[]tory~congrátul[eɪ]tory~congratul[éɪ]tory célebr[ə]tory ~célebr[eɪ]tory ~celebr[éɪ]tory círcul[ə]tory ~círcul[eɪ]tory ~circul[éɪ]tory

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

- Which is the **base word**?
- invéstigate congrátulate célebrate círculate -
- → invéstig[ə]tory~invéstig[e]tory
 - → congrátul[ə]tory~congrátul[eI]tory
 - \rightarrow c<u>é</u>lebr[ə]tory~c<u>é</u>lebr[eı]tory
 - → c<u>í</u>rcul[**ə**]tory~c<u>í</u>rcul[**eı**]tory

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- Which is the **base word**?

invéstigate congrátulate célebrate círculate

- → invéstig[ə]tory~invéstig[e]tory
- → congrátul[ə]tory~congrátul[eı]tory
- \rightarrow c<u>é</u>lebr[ə]tory~c<u>é</u>lebr[eı]tory
- → círcul[ə]tory~círcul[ei]tory

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

- Which is the **base word**?

- investig[<u>éı</u>]tory
 - congratul[<u>é</u>]tory
 - celebr[<u>éı</u>]tory
- circul[<u>éı</u>]tory

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

-ory extrametricality?

investig[éi]t<ion> \rightarrow congratul[éi]t<ion> \rightarrow celebr[éi]t<ion> \rightarrow circul[éi]t<ion> \rightarrow

investig[<u>é</u>]tory congratul[<u>é</u>]tory celebr[<u>é</u>]tory circul[<u>é</u>]tory

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

-ory extrametricality?

 $investi(g[\acute{e_1}])t < ion > \rightarrow investig[\acute{e_1}]tory$ $congratu(l[\acute{e_1}])t < ion > \rightarrow congratu[[\acute{e_1}]tory$ $cele(br[\acute{e_1}])t < ion > \rightarrow celebr[\acute{e_1}]tory$ $circu(l[\acute{e_1}])t < ion > \rightarrow circul[\acute{e_1}]tory$

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invéstigate congrátulate célebrate círculate

- → investig[ə]tory
- \rightarrow congratul[=]tory
- \rightarrow celebr[ə]tory
- \rightarrow circul[ə]tory

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-ory extrametricality?

invéstig<ate> \rightarrow congrátul<ate> \rightarrow célebr<ate> \rightarrow círcul<ate> \rightarrow

investig[ə]tory congratul[ə]tory celebr[ə]tory circul[ə]tory

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of **stress-shifting** and **stress-preserving** suffixes.

-ory extrametricality?

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{in}(v \underline{\acute{e}} s.ti)g < ate > \rightarrow & \text{investig}[\textbf{a}] tory \\ \text{con}(gr \underline{\acute{a}}.tu)| < ate > \rightarrow & \text{congratul}[\textbf{a}] tory \\ (c \underline{\acute{e}}.le)br < ate > \rightarrow & \text{celebr}[\textbf{a}] tory \\ (c \underline{\acute{r}}.cu)| < ate > & \rightarrow & \text{circul}[\textbf{a}] tory \end{array}$

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 $\begin{array}{ll} in(v \underline{\acute{o}} s.ti)g < ate > \rightarrow & investig[\underline{a}]t < ory > \\ con(gr \underline{\acute{a}}.tu)| < ate > \rightarrow & congratul[\underline{a}]t < ory > \\ (c \underline{\acute{o}}.le)br < ate > \rightarrow & celebr[\underline{a}]t < ory > \\ (c \underline{\acute{r}}.cu)| < ate > \rightarrow & circul[\underline{a}]t < ory > \end{array}$

- Some suffixes seem to belong to both the categories of stress-shifting and stresspreserving suffixes.

-ory extrametricality?

 $in(v e s.ti)g < ate > \rightarrow$ $(c\underline{\acute{e}}.le)br < ate > \rightarrow *ce(l\underline{\acute{e}}.br[\underline{a}])t < ory >$ $(c(r.cu)| < ate > \rightarrow$

*inves(tí.g[ə])t<ory> $con(gr\underline{a}.tu)| < ate > \rightarrow *congra(t\underline{u}.l[\underline{a}])t < ory >$ *cir(cú.l[ə])t<ory>

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 $\begin{array}{ll} in(v \ e s.ti)g < ate > \rightarrow & investig[ei]t < ory > \\ con(gr \ a.tu)l < ate > \rightarrow & congratul[ei]t < ory > \\ (c \ e le)br < ate > \rightarrow & celebr[ei]t < ory > \\ (c \ r.cu)l < ate > \rightarrow & circul[ei]t < ory > \end{array}$

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 $\begin{array}{ll} in(v \underline{\acute{o}} s.ti)g < ate > \rightarrow & investi(g[\underline{\acute{o}} i])t < ory > \\ con(gr \underline{\acute{a}} .tu)| < ate > \rightarrow & congratu(l[\underline{\acute{o}} i])t < ory > \\ (c \underline{\acute{e}} .le)br < ate > \rightarrow & cele(br[\underline{\acute{o}} i])t < ory > \\ (c \underline{\acute{r}} .cu)| < ate > & \rightarrow & circu(l[\underline{\acute{o}} i])t < ory > \end{array}$

-ory extrametricality?

- Correct prediction for 'N \rightarrow Adj' derivations: (congratulát-ion \rightarrow congratu($I[\acute{e}I]$)t<ory>

-ory extrametricality?

- **Correct** prediction for ' $N \rightarrow Adj$ ' derivations: (congratulát-ion \rightarrow congratu($I[\acute{e}I]$)t<**ory**>
- Wrong prediction for 'V \rightarrow Adj' derivations: (congrátul-ate \rightarrow congratu($|[\acute{e}i]$)t<ory> (congrátul-ate \rightarrow *congra(tú.|[ə])t<ory>

Our proposal: -*atory* suffixation + **foot extrametricality**



Vowel deletion in the allomorph as a strategy to improve foot structure while preserving as much segmental material as possible.



- Empirical evidence for *-atory* suffixation:

About 20 instances of **r-intrusion** by 10 different speakers.

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About 20 instances of **r-intrusion** by 10 different speakers.

[30_21]retaliatoryretal[ə]-r-[ə]tory[28_10]regulatoryregul[ə]-r-[ə]try

[12_15] *conciliatory* concili[ə]-r[**e**ı]**try**

[5_12] *participatory* particip[ə]-r-**tory**[9_13] *participatory* particip[ə]-r-**try**

- Empirical evidence for *-atory* suffixation:

A few other production "errors".

[25_17] accusatory accusat-[ə]tory[5_19] contributory contribute-[ə]tory

- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hallúcinatory partícipate \rightarrow partícipatory

- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hallúcinatory partícipate \rightarrow partícipatory
- revéal \rightarrow révelatory
- respíre \rightarrow réspiratory

- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hallúcinatory partícipate \rightarrow partícipatory
- revéal \rightarrow révelatory respíre \rightarrow réspiratory

ámbulatory labóratory~láboratory

- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hal.lú.ci.na.to.ry partícipate \rightarrow par.tí.ci.pa.to.ry
- revéal \rightarrow ré.ve.la.to.ry respíre \rightarrow rés.pi.ra.to.ry

ám.bu.la.to.ry labóratory~lá.bo.ra.to.ry
- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hal.lú.ci.n<a.to.ry> partícipate \rightarrow par.tí.ci.p<a.to.ry>
- revéal \rightarrow ré.ve.l<a.to.ry>
- respíre → rés.pi.r<a.to.ry>
- ám.bu.l<a.to.ry> labóratory~lá.bo.r<a.to.ry>

- **Default stress** or stress **preservation**?
- hallúcinate \rightarrow hal(lú.ci)n<a.to.ry> partícipate \rightarrow par(tí.ci)p<a.to.ry>
- revéal \rightarrow (ré.ve)l<a.to.ry>respíre \rightarrow (rés.pi)r<a.to.ry>
- (ám.bu)l<a.to.ry> labóratory~(lá.bo)r<a.to.ry>

(in)(vés.ti)g<a.to.ry>
(con)(grá.tu)l<a.to.ry>
(cír.cu)l<a.to.ry>
(cé.le)br<a.to.ry>
(ré.gu)l<a.to.ry>
(par)(tí.ci)p<a.to.ry>
(ar)(tí.cu)l<a.to.ry>
(dis)(crí.mi)n<a.to.ry>

(cás.ti)g<a.to.ry>
(ós.ci)l<a.to.ry>
(lí.ti)g<a.to.ry>
ha(lú.ci)n<a.to.ry>
(an)(tí.ci)p<a.to.ry>
(rés.pi)r<a.to.ry>
(ré.ve)l<a.to.ry>
(com)(pén)s<a.to.ry>

- **Exceptions** to the default pattern:

inflámatory

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inflámatory (unstressable suffix?)

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inflámatory (unstressable suffix?)

oblígatory

- **Exceptions** to the default pattern:

inflámatory (unstressable suffix?)
oblígatory (high frequency word?)

- Proposal for *-atory* suffixation:



- Psycholinguistic evidence:

Flapping/glottalization supports the existence of recursive feet like (a(to.ry)).

- Psycholinguistic evidence:

Flapping/glottalization supports the existence of recursive feet like (a(to.ry)).

 Flapping/glottalization can only happen in nonprominent positions within the foot (Withgott 1982, Davis 2004).

- T-flapping is **allowed in non-prominent** positions:



- T-flapping is **allowed in non-prominent** positions:



- T-flapping is *not* allowed in prominent positions:



- T-flapping is *not* allowed in prominent positions:



- T-flapping is *not* allowed in prominent positions:



If verb forms ending in *-ate* were the bases for
 -(at)ory words, then *-at-* and *-ory* could not be part of the same foot.

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- Therefore, final foot extrametricality would only affect *-ory*.

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 -(at)ory words, then *-at-* and *-ory* could not be part of the same foot.
- Therefore, final foot extrametricality would only affect *-ory*.
- $((cá.pi)t<al>) \rightarrow ((cà.pi)ta)(lis.ti<c>)$
- $\begin{array}{rcl} ((c\acute{e}.le)br<[eit]>) & \rightarrow & ((c\acute{e}.le)br[ei])<(to.ry)>\\ & \rightarrow & ((c\acute{e}.le))br[ei])<(to.ry)> \end{array}$

- The algorithm could not assign the attested patterns:











- The 'V \rightarrow Adj' derivation is possible only if -ory attaches to the base in a **non-cyclic** fashion.



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- But what would then be the explanation for the stress pattern of derivatives that don't have a verb form ending in *-ate*?



- The *célebratory* pattern is more likely explained as having the default foot structure:

(me).di)(te(rra.nea<n>) = (ce.le)<(br[=)(to.ry))>

- The *célebratory* pattern is more likely explained as having the default foot structure:

(mè.di)(te(rrá.nea<n>) = (cé.le)<(br[ə](to.ry))>

- The chances to obtain the -[ə]*tory* or the -[eɪ]*tory* form may depend on the **relative frequency** of the -*atory* adjective with respect to the -*(at)ion* noun.

- Default foot structure:












Within-type variation

- The possibility to obtain either the form with default stress and diphthong preservation or the form with stress in the suffix may depend on the interaction of **extrametricality** with **syllabic weight**.

(cé.le)<(br[ei](to.ry))> ~ (cè.le)((br[éi])<to.ry>)

The typology of stress in *-atory* derivatives

(1) Monomorphemic:

célebr[ə]tory

(2) -ation-derived:

(a) Extrametricality >> Syllabic weight:

célebr[eɪ]tory

(b) Syllabic weight > Extrametricality:

cèlebr[<mark>éı</mark>]tory

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