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Lexical storage and morphological segmentability in speech production

New evidence from English derivational affixes

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Ingo Plag

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft
FOR2373



Frequency and duration

Lexical frequency

How often does a word occur in a language?

Acoustic duration

How long do we pronounce linguistic units?



Frequency and duration

Lexical frequency

How often does a word occur in a language?

Acoustic duration

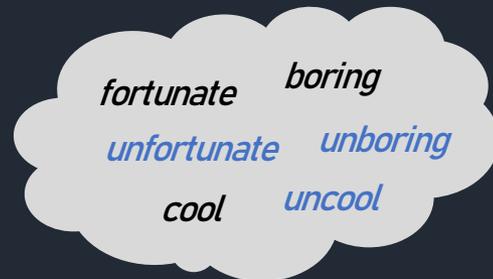
How long do we pronounce linguistic units?



Usual assumption:

The higher the frequency, the shorter the duration of linguistic units such as words, bases, and affixes.

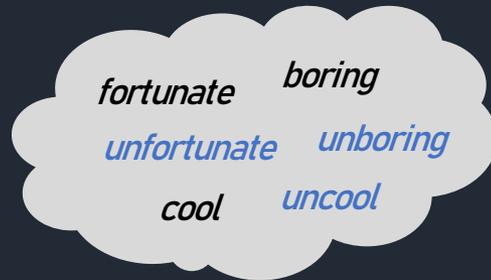
Whole-word storage



complex words are stored
unanalyzed

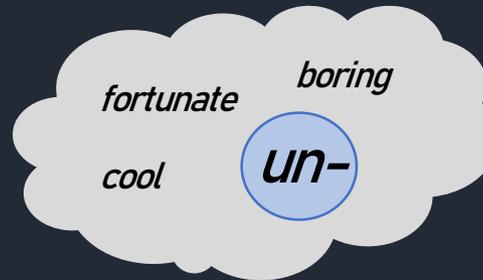
Storage in the mental lexicon

Whole-word storage



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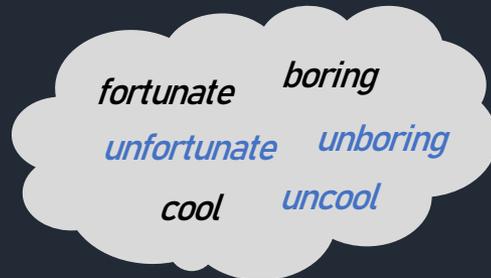
Compositional models



morphemes are stored
separately

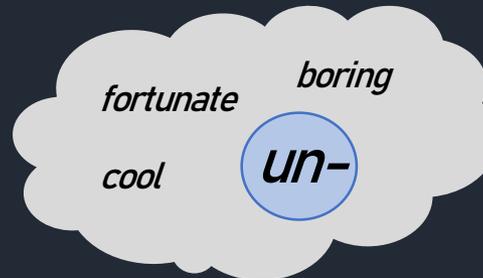
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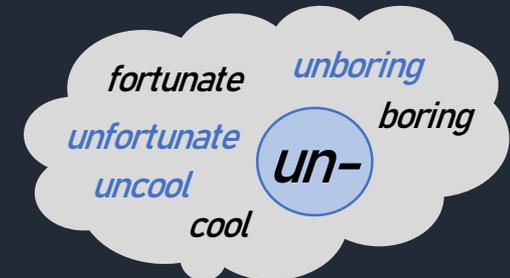
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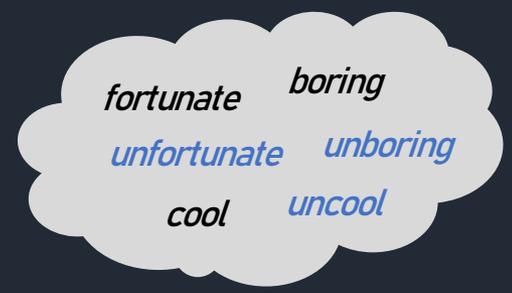
Dual-route models



both morphemes and
complex words are stored

Storage in the mental lexicon

Whole-word storage

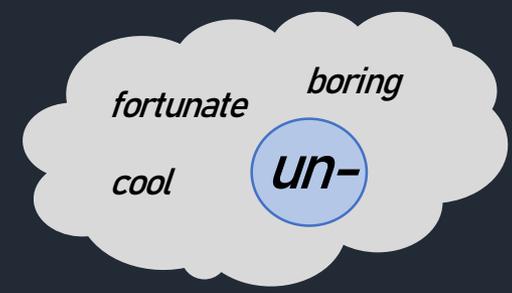


complex words are stored unanalyzed



durations will be shorter the higher the **word frequency**

Compositional models

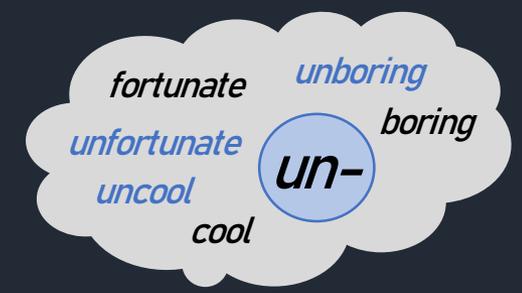


morphemes are stored separately



durations will be shorter the higher the **base frequency**

Dual-route models



both morphemes and complex words are stored



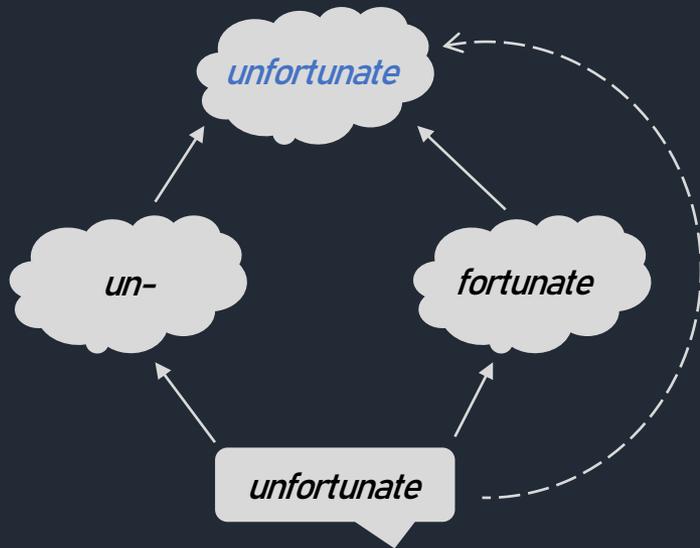
durations will be shorter the lower the **relative frequency**

Dual-route models



both morphemes and
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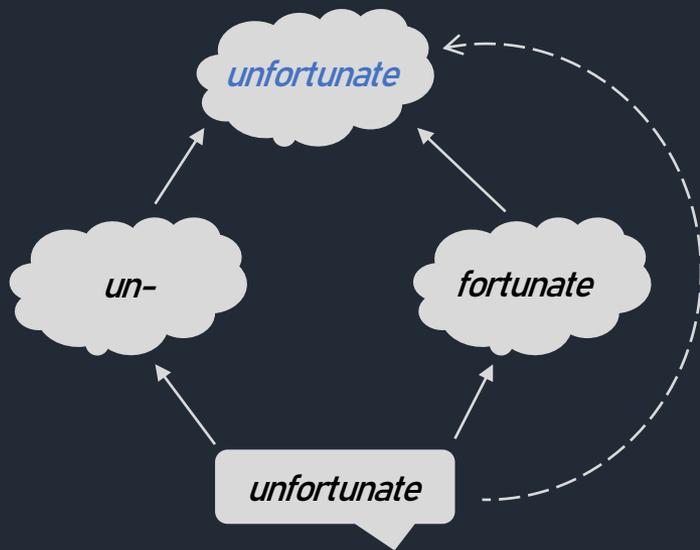
adapted from
Hay 2001: 1045

Dual-route models



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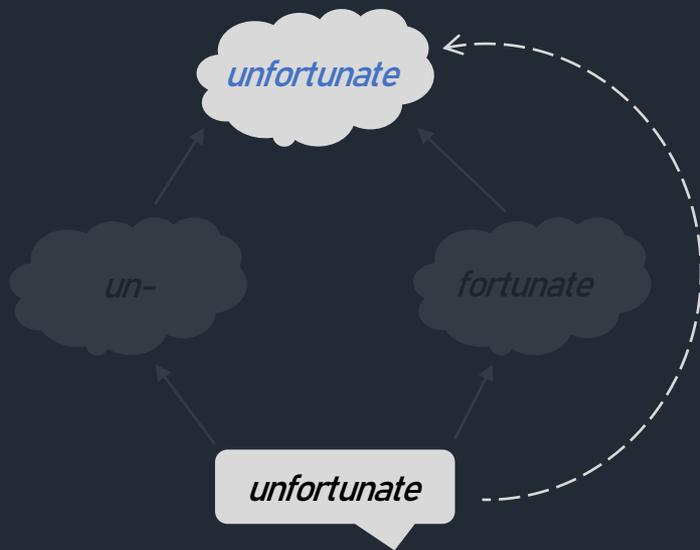
Word	Frequency	Segmentability	Prediction
fortunate	6000	low	shorter duration
unfortunate	6915		
boring	7483	high	longer duration
unboring	4		

Dual-route models



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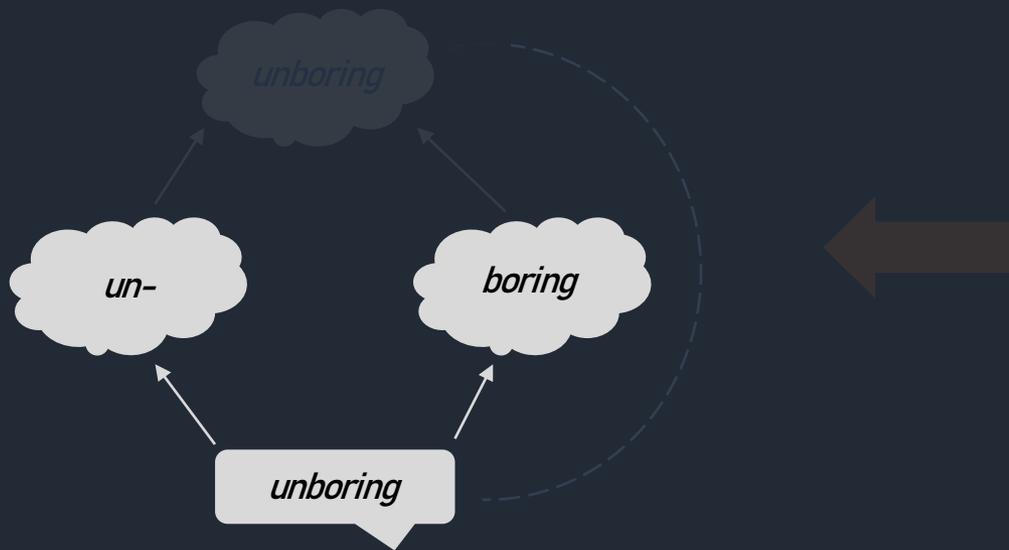
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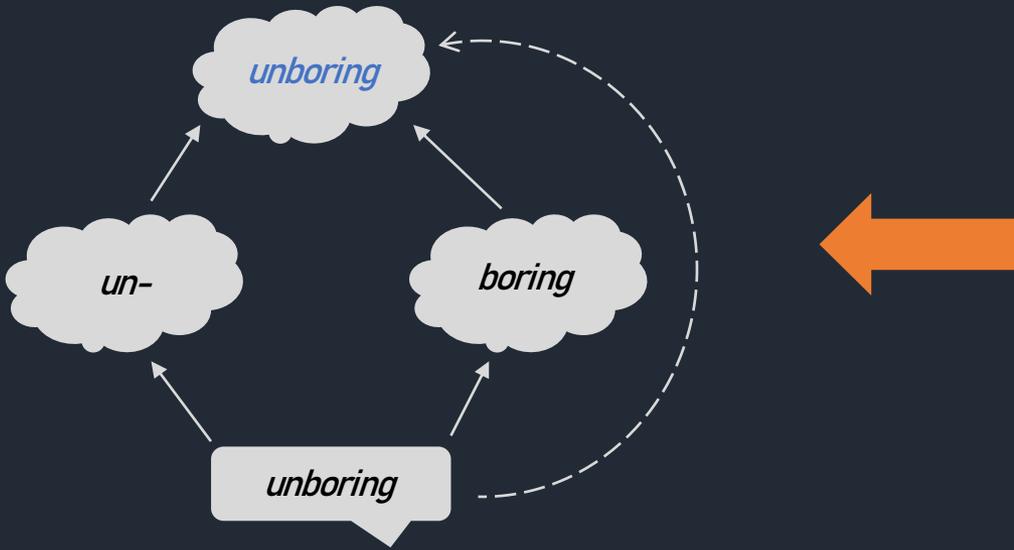
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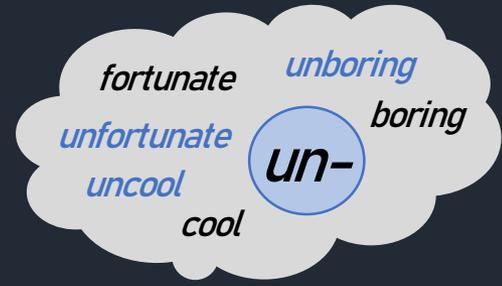
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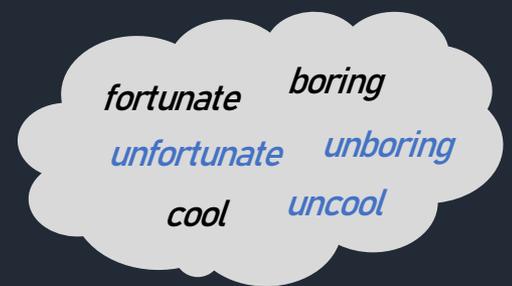
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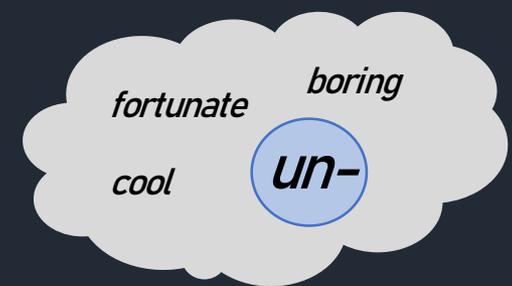


complex words are stored unanalyzed



durations will be shorter the higher the **word frequency**

Compositional models

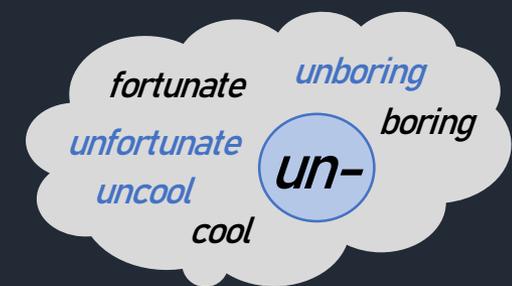


morphemes are stored separately



durations will be shorter the higher the **base frequency**

Dual-route models



both morphemes and complex words are stored



durations will be shorter the lower the **relative frequency**

Caselli et al. 2016

- › inflectional suffixes *-ing*, *-ed*, and *-s*
- › evidence for both whole-word storage and composition
 - › higher base frequency → shorter word duration
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Plag and Ben Hedia 2018

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- › null effects for negative *in-*, locative *in-*, and *-ly*

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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 and measurement

Data collection	Affixes	N
› AudioBNC	<i>-ness</i>	364
› Forced Alignment	<i>-less</i>	216
› Praat textgrids	<i>pre-</i>	118
› manual cleaning of results	<i>-wise</i>	289
	<i>-ize</i>	476
	<i>-ation</i>	3979

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N

Modeling

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

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- › word duration
- › affix duration
- › base duration

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- › word frequency
- › base frequency
- › relative frequency

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Covariates

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

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Responses

- › word duration
- › affix duration
- › base duration
- › **separate models for durations and frequencies: 54 models**

Predictors

- › word frequency
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Frequency and segmentability effects

Frequency and segmentability effects

affix	pre-		
	word	affix	base
duration			
word frequency			
base frequency			
relative frequency			

 $p < .001$ expected direction

Frequency and segmentability effects

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

 $p < .001$ expected direction

Frequency and segmentability effects

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

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

Frequency and segmentability effects

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

affix	-wise		
duration	word	affix	base
word frequency			■
base frequency			
relative frequency			■

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

Frequency and segmentability effects

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

affix	-wise			-less		
	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
duration						
word frequency			■			
base frequency						
relative frequency			■			

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

Frequency and segmentability effects

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

affix	-wise			-less			-ation		
	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
duration									
word frequency			■				■		■
base frequency									■
relative frequency			■				■		■

■ p < .001 expected direction
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Frequency and segmentability effects

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

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

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

Are the differences related to ...

Prefixes vs. suffixes

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

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

■ $p < .001$ expected direction
■ $p < .001$ unexpected direction

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

Prefixes vs. suffixes

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

affix	-wise			-less			-ation		
	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
duration									
word frequency			■				■		■
base frequency									■
relative frequency			■				■		■

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

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

Affix length

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

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

■ $p < .001$ expected direction
 ■ $p < .001$ unexpected direction
 Are the differences related to ...
 the type of affix?
 the affix length?
 ✗

Affix length

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

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

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

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

Type of prosodic integration

Type of prosodic integration

The prosodic hierarchy



Type of prosodic integration

The prosodic hierarchy



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

Type of prosodic integration

The prosodic hierarchy



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- › onset or coda conditions, LOI-violations
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- › 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

pword-forming



Type of prosodic integration

yword-forming



clitic group



Type of prosodic integration

yword-forming



clitic group



integrating



Type of prosodic integration



yword-forming



clitic group



integrating



Type of prosodic integration



pword-forming



clitic group



integrating



Type of prosodic integration

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

affix	-wise			-less			-ation		
	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
duration									
word frequency			■				■		■
base frequency									■
relative frequency			■				■		■

■ $p < .001$

expected direction

■ $p < .001$

unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix? ✗

the affix length? ✗

the segmentation? ✗

prosodic structure?

Type of prosodic integration

category	prosodic word			clitic group			integrates		
affix	pre-			-ness			-ize		
duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									

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

p < .001

expected direction

p < .001

unexpected direction

Are the differences related to ...

the type of affix?

the affix length?

the segmentation?

prosodic structure?

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category	prosodic word			clitic group			integrates		
affix	pre-			-ness			-ize		
duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
word frequency									
base frequency									
relative frequency									

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

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

Are the differences related to ...
 the type of affix? ✗
 the affix length? ✗
 the segmentation? ✗
 prosodic structure?

Type of prosodic integration

category	prosodic word			clitic group			integrates		
	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
affix	pre-			-ness			-ize		
duration									
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category	-wise			-less			-ation		
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Are the differences related to ...
 the type of affix? ✗
 the affix length? ✗
 the segmentation? ✗
 prosodic structure? ✗

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category	prosodic word			clitic group			integrates		
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duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
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duration	word	affix	base	word	affix	base	word	affix	base
word frequency									
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Are the differences related to ...
 the type of affix? ✗
 the affix length? ✗
 the segmentation? ✗
 prosodic structure? ✗

Type of prosodic integration

Meta-model including all affixes

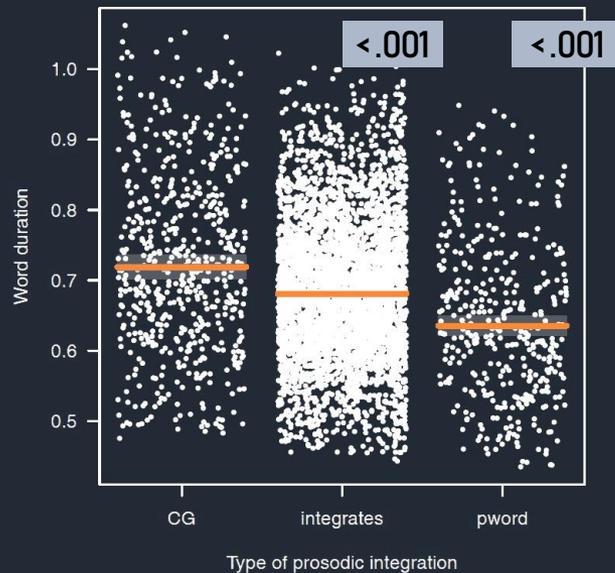
- › Additional predictor: **type of prosodic integration**
- › Additional covariate: **number of timing slots**
- › **N = 5450**

Type of prosodic integration

Meta-model including all affixes

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Effect of prosodic category on word duration

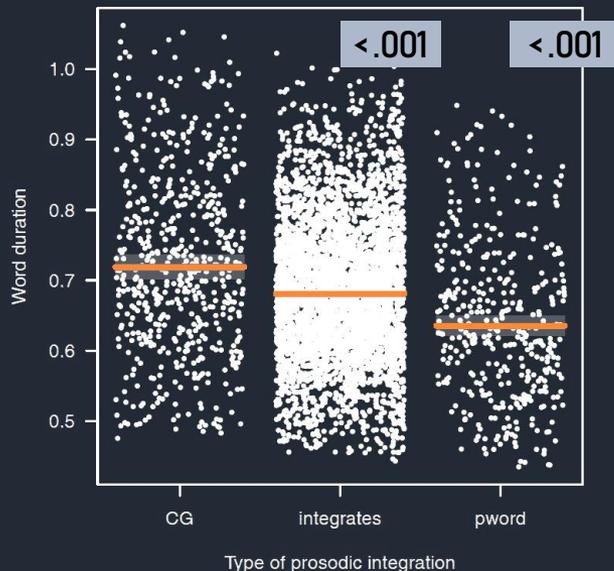


Type of prosodic integration

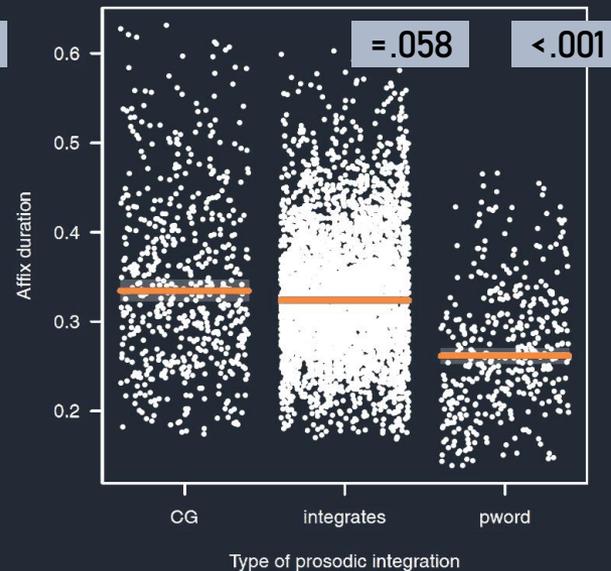
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Effect of prosodic category on word duration



Effect of prosodic category on affix duration

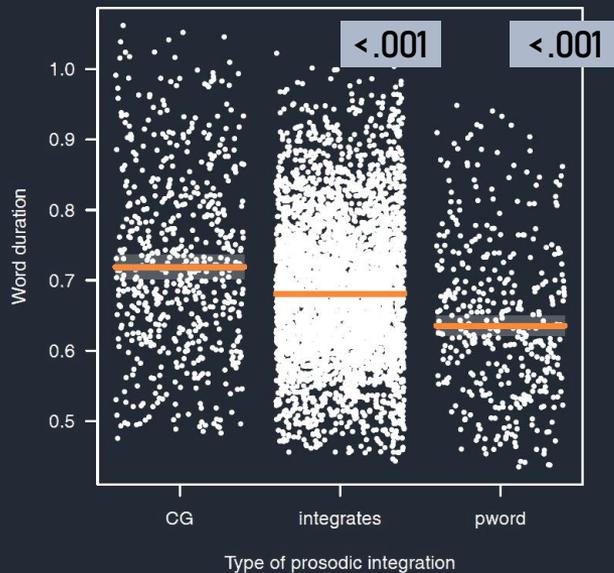


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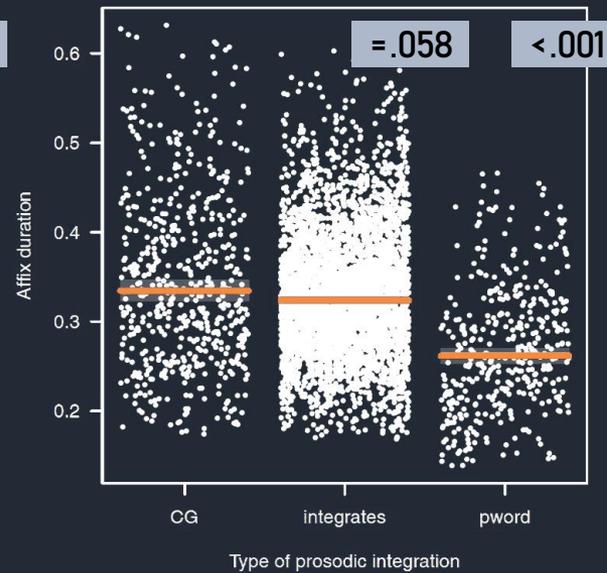
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- › Additional covariate: **number of timing slots**
- › **N=5450**

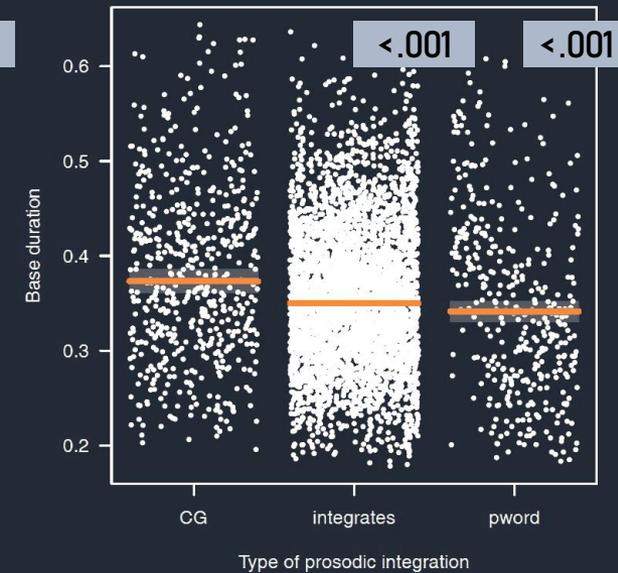
Effect of prosodic category on word duration



Effect of prosodic category on affix duration



Effect of prosodic category on base duration

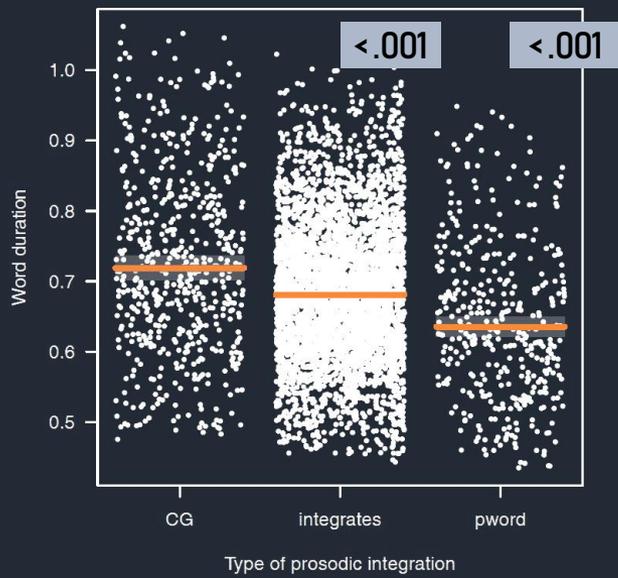


Type of prosodic integration

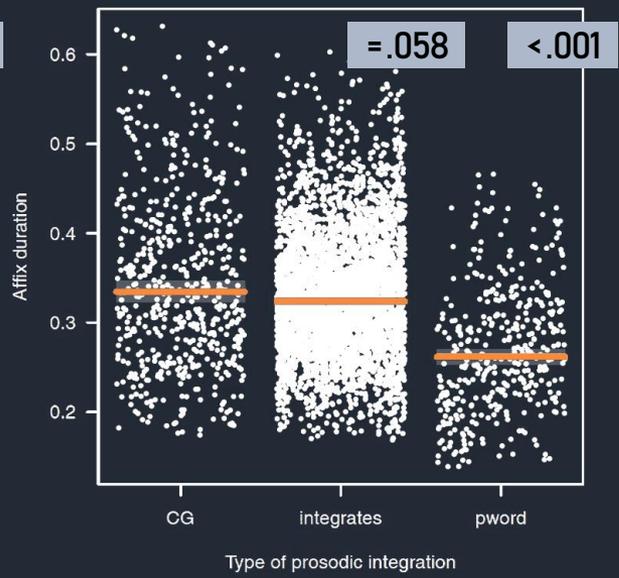
Meta-model including all affixes

- › Additional predictor: **type of prosodic integration**
- › Additional covariate: **number of timing slots**
- › **N=5450**
- › **This does not support the predictions of pword integration.**

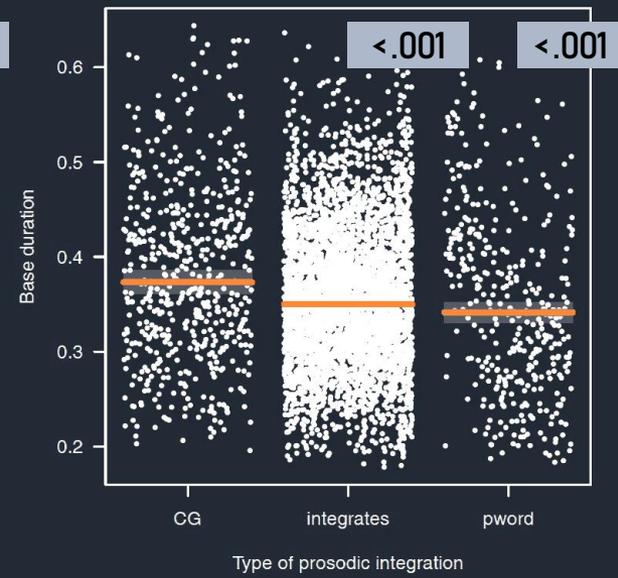
Effect of prosodic category on word duration



Effect of prosodic category on affix duration



Effect of prosodic category on base duration



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.

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).

Our findings imply that ...

- › morphological structure can at least partly influence the phonetic output.

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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.

Thank you for listening.

Thank you for listening.

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Thank you for listening.

- › Hildebrandt, Kristine A. 2015. The prosodic word. In John R Taylor (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Word*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- › Kiparsky, Paul. 1982. Lexical morphology and phonology. In In-Seok Yang (ed.), *Linguistics in the morning calm: Selected papers from SICOL*, 3–91. Seoul: Hanshin.
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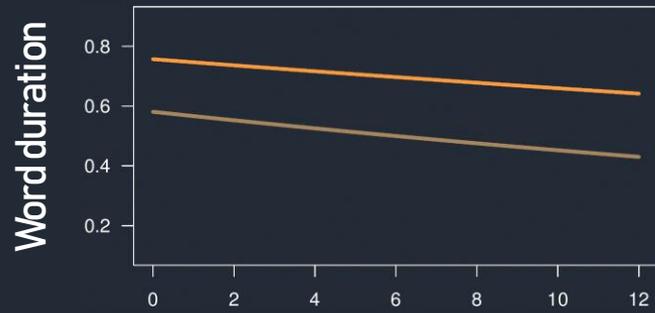
Thank you for listening.

- › Raffelsiefen, Renate. 1999. Diagnostics for prosodic words revisited: The case of historically prefixed words in English. In Tracy A. Hall & Ursula Kleinhenz (eds.), *Studies of the phonological word*. 133–201. Amsterdam, Philadelphia: Benjamins.
- › Raffelsiefen, Renate. 2007. Morphological word structure in English and Swedish: The evidence from prosody. In Geert Booij, Luca Ducceschi, Bernard Fradin, Ernesto Guevara, Angela Ralli & Sergio Scalise (eds.), *Online Proceedings of the Fifth Mediterranean Morphology Meeting (MMM5)*, Fréjus, 15–18 September 2005, 209–268.
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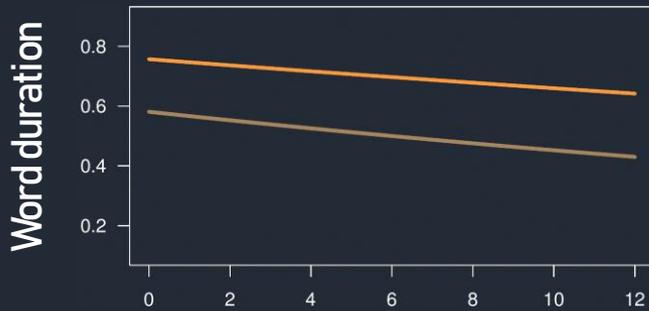
Thank you for listening.

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Log word frequency



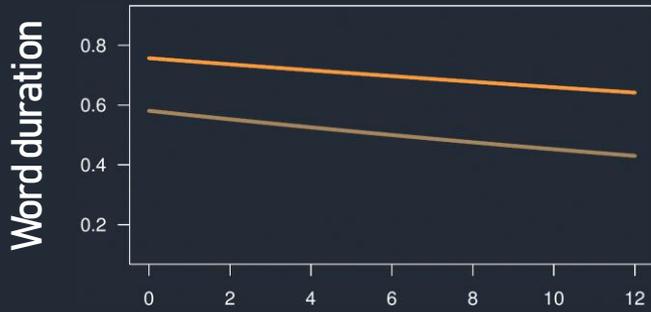
Log word frequency



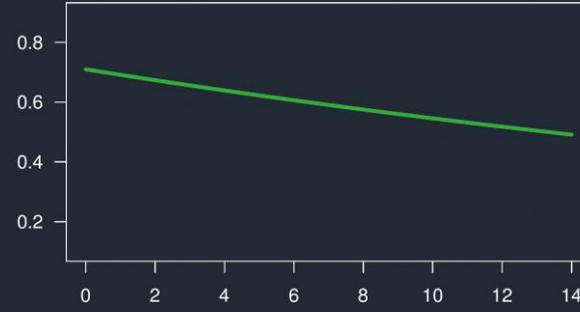
■ -ation
■ -ness

Effect size
comparison
between affixes.
Effects with
 $p > .001$ omitted.

Log word frequency

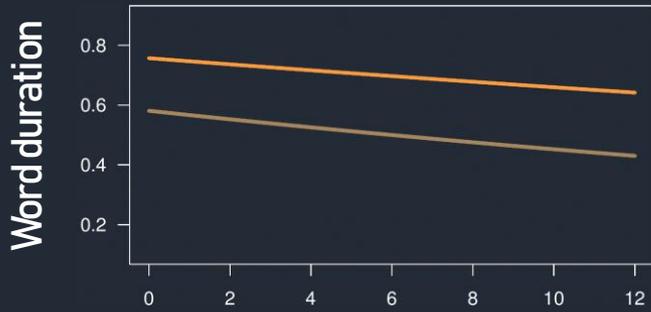


Log base frequency

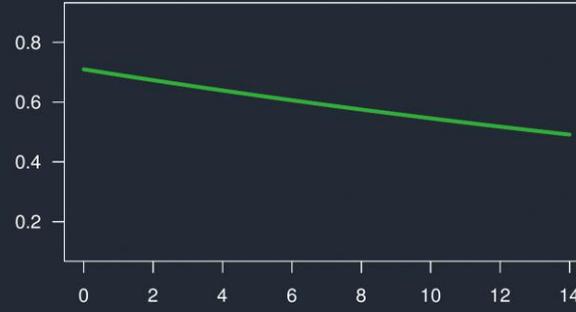


■ -ation	Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.
■ -ness	
■ -ize	

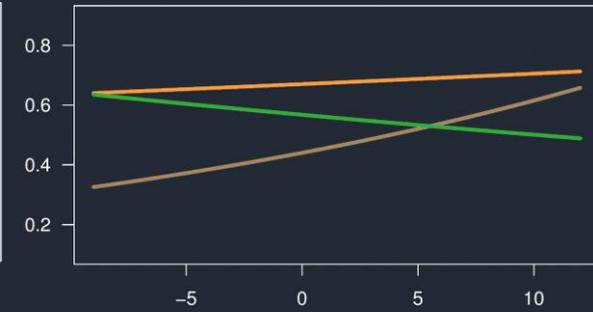
Log word frequency



Log base frequency

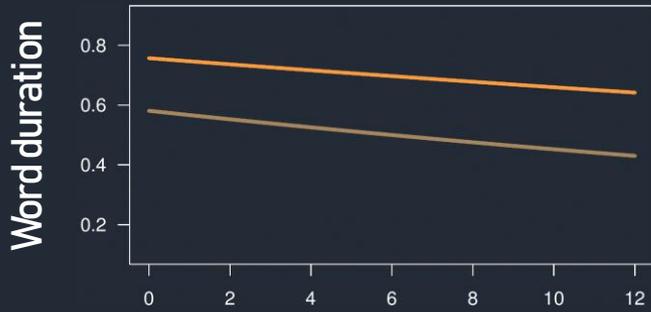


Log relative frequency

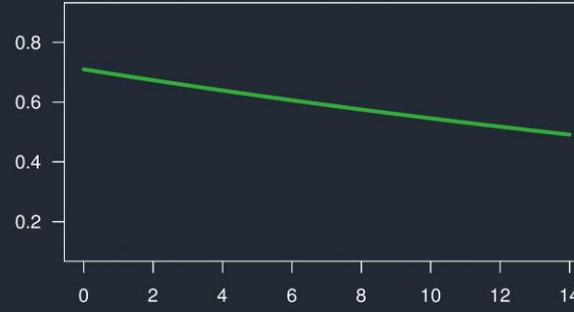


■ -ation	Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.
■ -ness	
■ -ize	

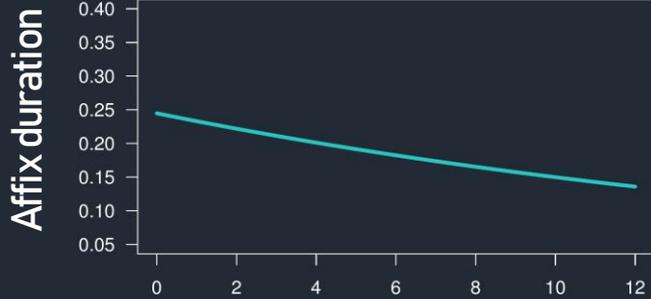
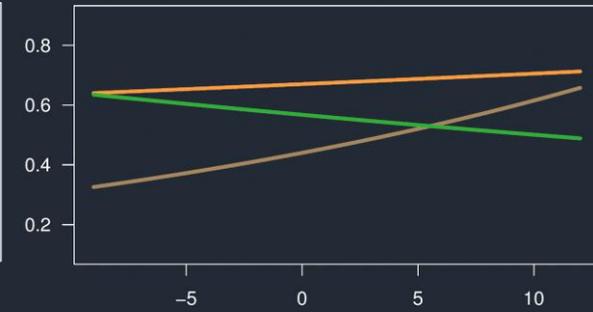
Log word frequency



Log base frequency

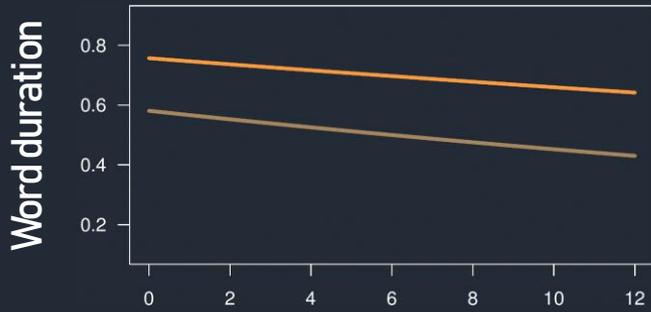


Log relative frequency

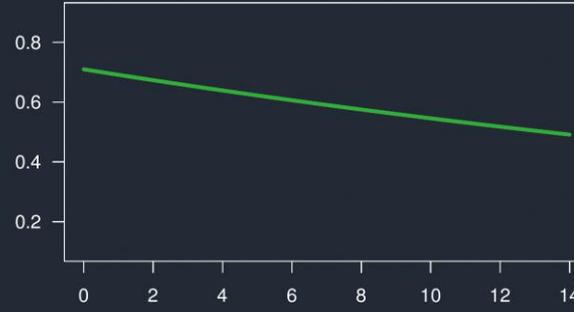


■ -ation	Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.
■ -ness	
■ -ize	
■ pre-	

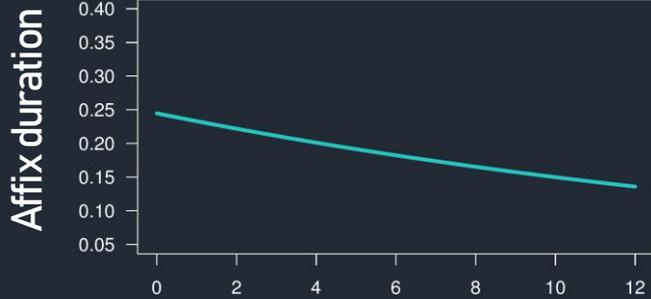
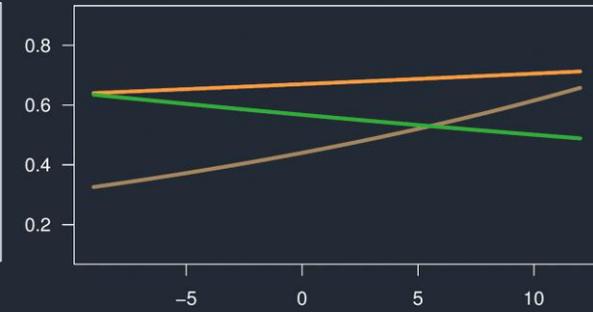
Log word frequency



Log base frequency

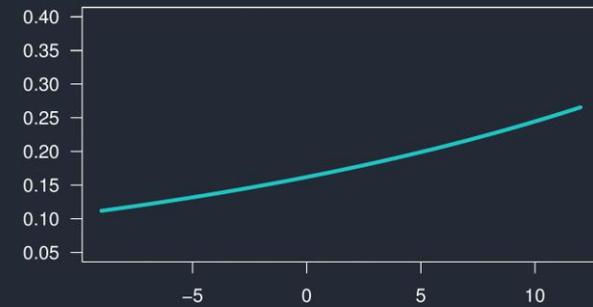


Log relative frequency

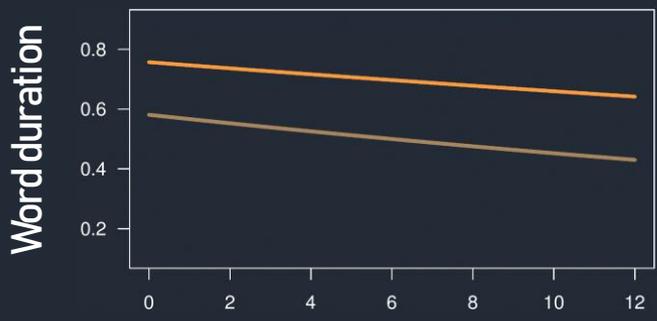


- -ation
- -ness
- -ize
- pre-

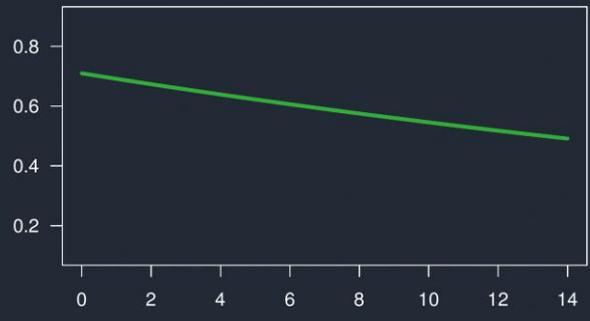
Effect size comparison between affixes.
Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.



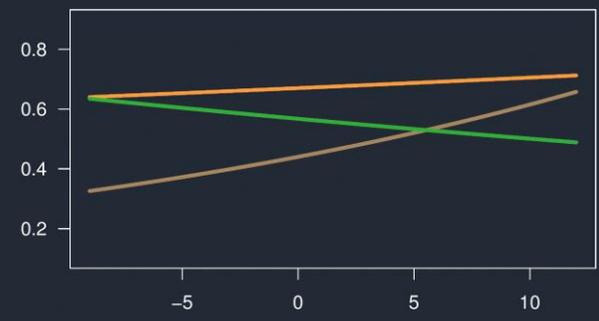
Log word frequency



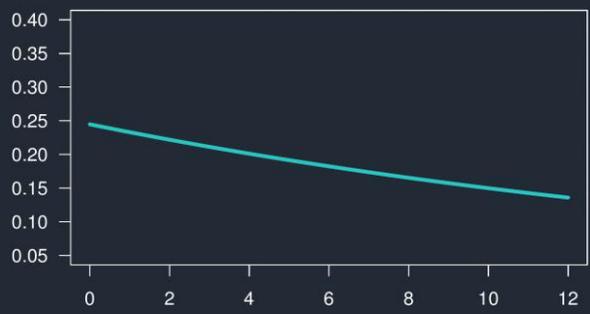
Log base frequency



Log relative frequency



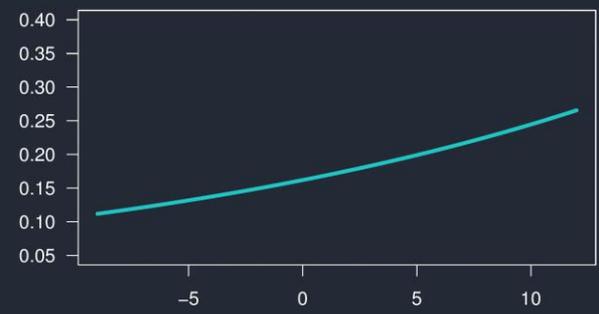
Affix duration



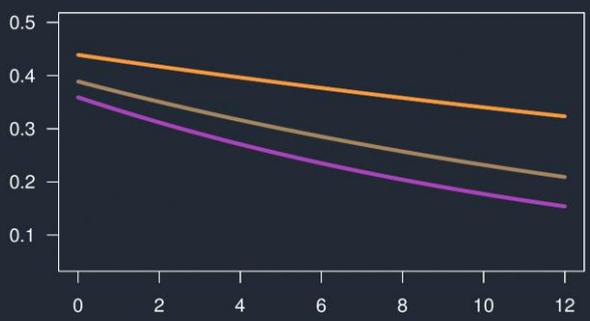
Legend:

- ation (orange)
- ness (tan)
- ize (green)
- pre- (teal)
- wise (purple)

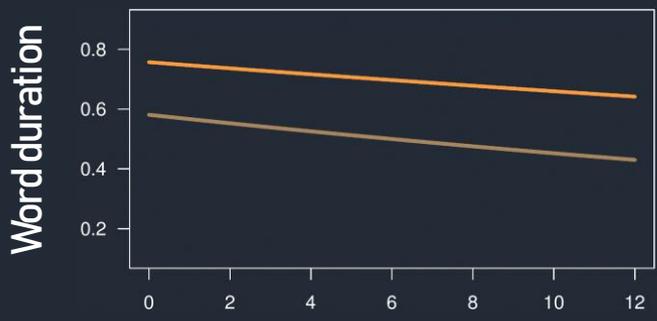
Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.



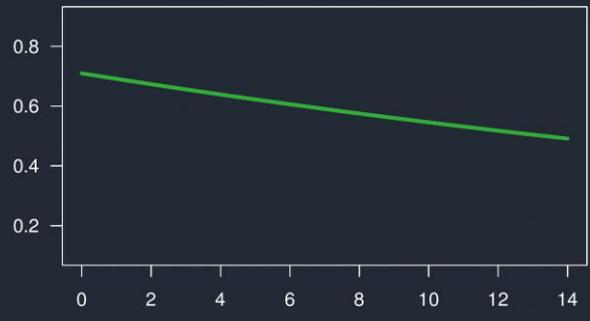
Base duration



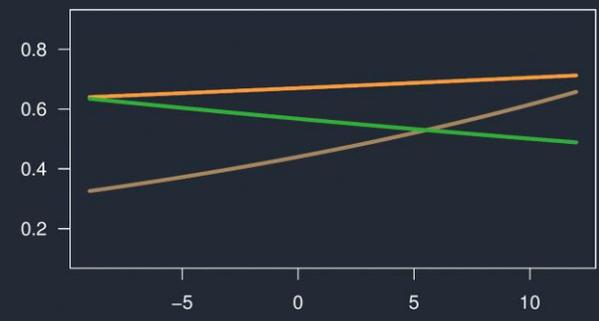
Log word frequency



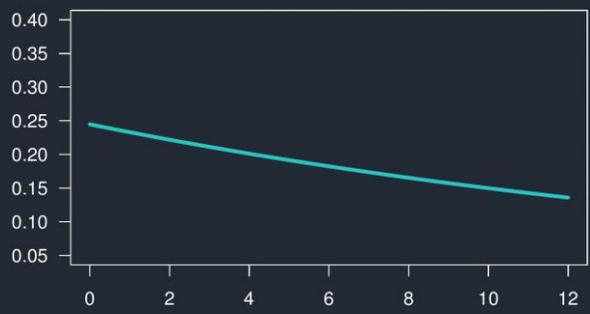
Log base frequency



Log relative frequency

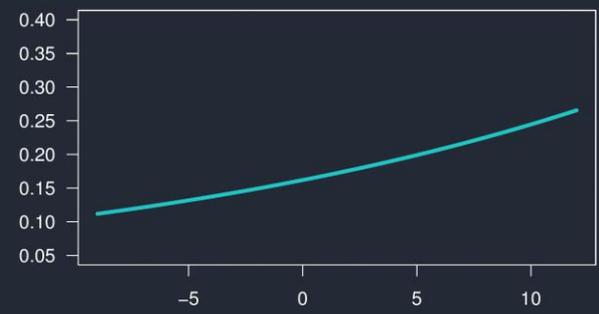


Affix duration

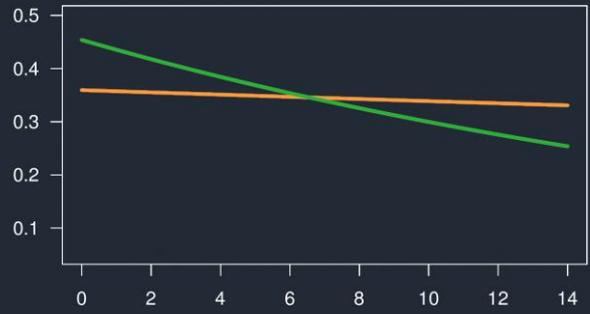
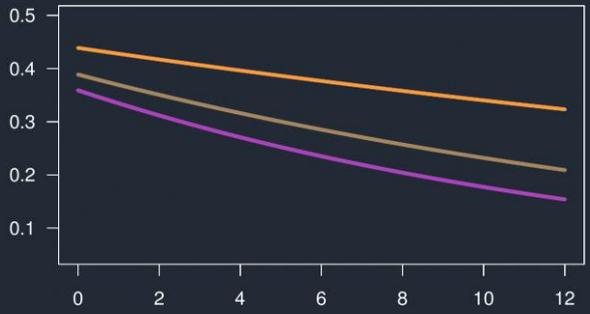


- -ation
- -ness
- -ize
- pre-
- -wise

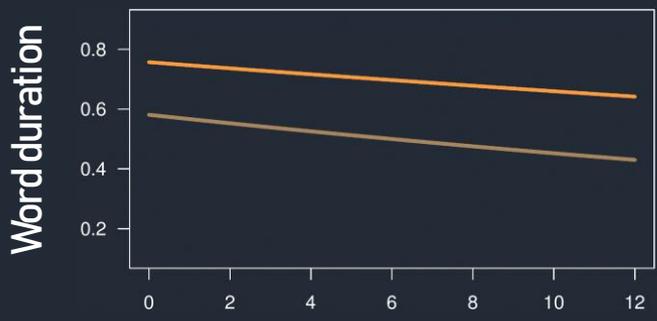
Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.



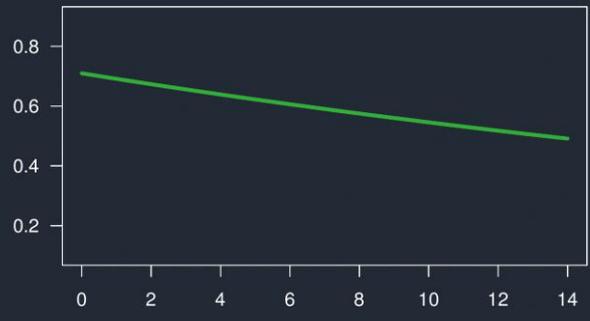
Base duration



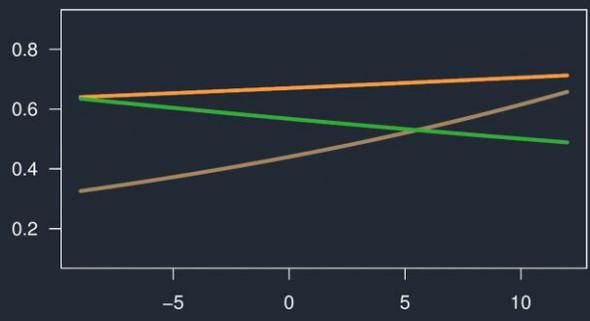
Log word frequency



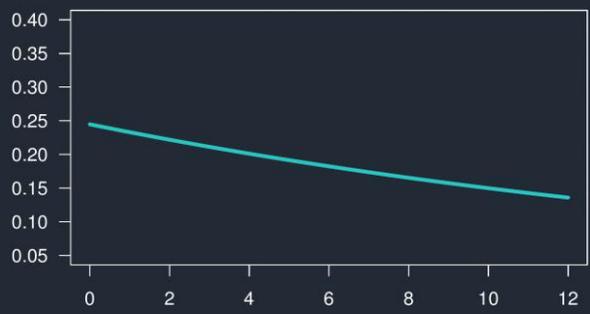
Log base frequency



Log relative frequency

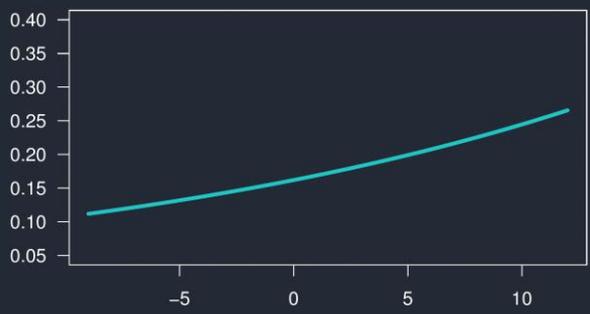


Affix duration



- -ation
- -ness
- -ize
- pre-
- -wise

Effect size comparison between affixes. Effects with $p > .001$ omitted.



Base duration

