

Assignment #4: Malayalam
Due Tuesday, Nov. 15 in class

The data below illustrate some alternations in Malayalam. Your job is to use the tools of **lexical phonology** to account for why some of the alternations don't apply in certain morphological contexts.

- You can use **rules or OT**; your choice.
- Either way, you'll have to make a proposal about how many **levels** there are in the lexical component of Malayalam phonology, decide which morphological operations belong to which level, and decide which rules apply at which level(s) of the lexical phonology, or in the postlexical phonology.

Etymology:

- Malayalam is a Dravidian language but has been heavily influenced by Sanskrit.
- I've marked words as D (Dravidian origin) or S (Sanskrit origin) whenever the source gave that information, and otherwise as X (sometimes that information is phonologically relevant, sometimes not). In some cases D could mean that the word is treated by the language as Dravidian even if it actually came from Sanskrit, and vice versa.
- In the cases where the etymology is not given, you may assume that D and S words behave the same, expect where I made notes like “('pig' must be D)”.
- You may assume that lexical entries can be marked [+D, -S] or [-D,+S], and that rules or constraints can refer to those features, at least until the postlexical level (by which time such features should have been erased).

Be sure to discuss...

- At what stage in the derivation can or must morphological bracketing and/or abstract features like [D] and [S] be erased? (Remember that once information is gone, it's gone—it can't come back later in the derivation.)
- Do the lexical processes show any non-derived-environment blocking (NDEB)?
 - If so, in a rule analysis you can just stipulate that the strict cycle condition is correct (see Nov. 3 handout for definition).
 - If so, in an OT analysis you can similarly stipulate that (some? all? all at the lexical level?) markedness constraints don't apply if they are already violated in the input (this follows a proposal of McCarthy for “comparative markedness”).

A lot of the processes will look kind of similar. Avoid having multiple, very similar rules/constraints when you can, but don't worry if your solution still includes some.

Data are from Mohanan (bibliographic info available later if you want). Some consonant allophony is not indicated. As always, the order in which you present your solution doesn't have to reflect the order in which the data are presented.

Please don't be alarmed by the large number of words! They're there to show each pattern repeatedly, not because every word requires its own analysis.

Data

1. In order for some of the data to make sense, you will first need an analysis of the following **schwa/zero** alternations. Analyze the **glide/zero** alternations too. I am writing spaces or hyphens on either side of the glides so as to avoid committing to any morphological affiliation, but the glides do not represent a distinct morpheme—they are inserted in a phonologically predictable environment.

Note: Even though they don't form a natural class, [m] and [n] are the only consonants that are allowed to be word-final (on the surface) in this language.

<i>word1</i>		<i>word2</i>		<i>phrase</i>		<i>modifier-head</i>	
1. waalə	sword	ewiṭe	where	waal ewiṭe	Where is the sword?		
2. waalə	sword	muurtakuutti	sharpened	waalə muurtakuutti	sharpened the sword		
3. wa a	bangle	ewiṭe	where	wa a j ewiṭe	Where is the bangle?		
4. maaṣə	teacher	uraŋŋi	slept	maaṣə uraŋŋi	The teacher slept.		
5. maaṣə	teacher	wannu	came	maaṣə wannu	teacher came		
6. ɖaasi	servant	uraŋŋi	slept	ɖaasi j uraŋŋi	The servant slept.		
7. kuzi	hole	aana	elephant			kuzi-j-aana	insect sp. (lit. hole-elephant)
8. tookkə	gun	<i>just two more words that end in vowels, to help rule in/out hypotheses you may develop below</i>					
9. tikku	Tickoo						

2. Some differences between D and S stems.

<i>word1</i>			<i>word2</i>			<i>modifier-head compound</i>		
10. riati	Rati (name)		kutti	child	D	riati-kkutti	X-D	Ratikutti (name); ignore [t]/[t̥] difference—prob. mistake
11. jakṣi	yakshi (demoness)		paala	pala tree	D	jakṣi-ppaala	X-D	the pala tree in which yakshi lives
12. b ^h aarja	wife		wiitə	house	D	b ^h aarja-wiitə	X-D	wife's house
13. manusjan	man		kur'aŋŋə	monkey	D	manusja-kkur'aŋŋə	X-D	human monkey/ape
14. puṣṭakam	book		taajam	paint	D	puṣṭaka-ttaajam	X-D	paint for books
15. puṣpam	flower		kuṭam	pitcher	D	puṣpa-kkuṭam	X-D	pitcher of/for flowers
16. mar'am	tree, wood		kuṭam	pitcher	D	mar'a-kkuṭam	X-D	wooden pitcher
17. mar'am	tree, wood		kutir'a	horse	D	mar'a-kkutir'a	X-D	wooden horse; ignore [t]/[t̥] difference
18. mar'am	tree, wood		taŋŋala	chain	D	mar'a-ttaŋŋala	X-D	wooden chain
19. jakṣan	yaksha (demon)		paattə	song	D	jakṣa-ppaattə	X-D	yaksha's song
20. riati	Rati (name)		ɖeewi	goddess	S	riatii-ɖeewi	X-S	goddess Rati
21. jakṣi	yakshi (demoness)		paad̪am	foot	S	jakṣii-paad̪am	X-S	yakshi's foot
22. b ^h aarja	wife		gr'əham	house	S	b ^h aarjaa-gr'əham	X-S	wife's house
23. waɖ ^h u	bride		gr'əham	house	S	waɖ ^h uu-gr'əham	X-S	bride's house
24. taar'a	Tara (name)		kaant̪an	husband	S	taar'aa-kaant̪an	X-S	Tara's husband
25. manusjan	man		kanṭ ^h am	neck	S	manusja-kanṭ ^h am	X-S	human neck
26. puṣṭakam	book		tar'it̪am	story	S	puṣṭaka-tar'it̪am	X-S	history of books

27. puṣṣam	flower		kumb ^h am	pitcher	S	puṣṣa-kumb ^h am	X-S	pitcher of/for flowers
28. mar ^h am	tree, wood		kumb ^h am	pitcher	S	mar ^h a-kumb ^h am	X-S	wooden pitcher
29. ṭṭii	fire		kaṭṭa	lump	D	ṭṭii-kkaṭṭa	X-D	lump of fire
30. ṭṭii	fire		ṇaaḷam	flame	D	ṭṭii-ṇaaḷam	X-D	flame of fire
31. swarṇṇam	gold		paṣam	fruit	D	swarṇṇa-ppaṣam	X-D	fruit of gold
32. swarṇṇam	gold		maza	rain	D	swarṇṇa-maza	X-D	rain of gold
33. kar ⁱ	charcoal		kuuṭṭaan	dish	D	kar ⁱ -kkuuṭṭaan	X-D	coal dish
34. kar ⁱ	charcoal		laḍḍu	sweet	D	kari-laḍḍu	X-D	charcoal sweet (don't worry about [r]/[r'] —maybe typo)
35. muuṭṭram	urine		s'aṅka	suspicion	D	muuṭṭra-s'aṅka	X-D	desire to urinate
36. swarṇṇam	gold		suuṭṭi	needle	D	swarṇṇa-suuṭṭi	X-D	golden needle
37. malar ⁱ ə	popped rice		poṭi	powder		malar-ppoṭi	X-D	powdered popped rice (don't worry about [r]/[r'])
38. pakalə	day		kinaawə	dream	D	pakal-kkinaawə	X-D	day dream
39. aaḷə	man		kuuṭṭam	group	D	aaḷ-kkuuṭṭam	X-D	crowd
40. wirakə	firewood		kolli	twig	D	wirakə-kolli	X-D	log for firewood
41. kaṭukə	mustard		paatram	vessel	D	kaṭukə-paatram	X-D	vessel for mustard
42. kaaṭṭə	ear		kuttṭə	piercing	D	kaaṭṭə-kuttṭə	X-D	piercing of the ear

3. Malayalam also has multiply headed compounds that have a coordinative meaning. Carefully compare the coordinative compounds below to the modifier-head compounds (those already seen above and more below); some of the differences are subtle.

<i>word1</i>		<i>word2</i>		<i>word3</i>		<i>coordinative compound</i>		<i>modifier-head compound</i>	
43. att ^h an 'father'		amma 'mother'				att ^h an-amma-maar ⁱ ə 'parents' maarⁱə : plural	X-X-sf		
44. jakṣan 'yaksha'		kinnarian 'kinnara'	S	gaṇḍ ^h arwwan 'gandharwa'	S	jakṣa-kinnar ⁱ a-gaṇḍ ^h arww-aaḍi-kaḷə 'yakshas, kinnaras, gandharwas, etc. (demons)' aaḍi = 'etc.', kaḷ = plural ignore what happens at end of 'gandharwa'—requires rules not illustrated elsewhere	S-S-S-sf-sf		
45. waaḷə 'sword'		ulacca 'pounding stick'		pariṭa 'shield'		waaḷ-ulacca-pariṭa-kaḷə 'sword, pounding stick & shield'	X-X-X-sf		

46.	ulacca 'pounding stick'	waa ə 'sword'		pari ta 'shield'		ulacca-waa ə-pari ta-ka ə 'pounding stick, sword & shield' 'sword' must be D	X-X-X-sf		
47.	waa ə 'sword'	ṭala 'head'	D					waa ṭṭala 'sword point'	X-D
48.	peŋ ə 'woman'	kutti 'child'	D					peŋ-kutti 'girl'	X-D
49.	aaŋ ə 'man'	kutti 'child'	D					aaŋ-kutti 'boy'	X-D
50.	aaŋ ə 'man'	peŋ ə 'woman'		wjaṭjaasam 'difference'		aaŋ ə-peŋ ə-wjaṭjaasam 'difference between men & women'	X-X-X		
51.	paalə 'milk'	ṭajir ə 'yogurt'		wenṇa 'butter' warggam 'group'		paalə-ṭajir ə-wenṇa-warggam 'the class of milk, yogurt & butter' 'group' must be D	X-X-X-X		
52.	paalə 'milk'	paatram 'vessel'	D					paal-ppaatram 'vessel for milk'	X-D
53.	ṭempə 'copper'	paatram 'vessel'	D					ṭempə-paatram 'copper vessel'	X-D
54.	ku ir ə 'cold'	kaattə 'breeze'						ku ir-kaattə 'cool breeze' 'breeze' must be S don't worry about the [r]/[r̥]	X-X
55.	ṭa ir ə 'tender leaf'	meeni 'body'				ṭa ir ə-meeni-ka ə 'tender leaves & bodies'	X-X-sf	ṭa ir-meeni-ka ə 'tender body' don't worry about the [r]/[r̥]	X-X-sf
56.	wirakə 'firewood'	kol i 'twig'						wirakə-kol i 'twig for firewood'	X-X
57.	kaatə 'ear'	kuttə 'piercing'						kaatə-kuttə 'piercing of the ear'	X-X
58.	petti 'box'	paṭṭaajam 'grain bin'	D			petti-paṭṭaajan-ŋa ə 'boxes and grain bins'	X-D-sf	petti-ppaṭṭaajan-ŋa ə 'grain bins used as boxes'	X-D-sf
59.	aana 'elephant'	kutir a 'horse'				aana-kutir a-ka ə 'elephants and horses'	X-D-sf	aana-kkutir a 'horse that is like an elephant'	X-D

60.	eli 'rat'		paṅṅi 'pig'		per'iṭṭaazi 'bandicoot'		eli-paṅṅi-per'iṭṭaazi 'rat, pig and bandicoot' 'pig' must be D	X-X-D		
61.	suk ^h am 'pleasure'		dukk ^h am 'sorrow'				suk ^h a-dukk ^h aṅ-ṅa ə 'pleasure and pain' 'sorrow' must be D	X-X-sf		
62.	manuṣjan 'man'		mrəgam 'animal'		sambanḍ ^h am 'contact'		manuṣja-mrəga-sambanḍ ^h am 'interaction between man & animal' 'animal' must be D	X-X-X		
63.	ṭāar ^ʳ a 'Tara'		kaanṭan 'Kantan'				ṭāar ^ʳ aa-kaanṭan-maar ^ʳ ə 'Tara and Kantan'	X-S-sf		
64.	baalica 'girl'		baalan 'boy'				baalicaa-baalan-maar ^ʳ ə 'boys and girls'	X-S-sf		
65.	b ^h aar ^ʳ ja 'wife'		b ^h artṭaawə 'husband'	S			b ^h aar ^ʳ jaa-b ^h artṭaak-kan-maar ^ʳ ə 'husband and wife' ignore the assimilations of the [w] from 'husband' and the [l] from the suffix [ka]	X-S-sf-sf		

4. Some more phrasal data. Check that your analysis generates them correctly.

word1		word2		word3		phrase	
66. manuṣjan	man	mar ^ʳ iṭṭu	died			manuṣjan mar ^ʳ iṭṭu	The man died.
67. kaṭam	debt	konṭə	with	muṭin ^ʳ n ^ʳ u	destroyed	kaṭam konṭə muṭin ^ʳ n ^ʳ u	We are destroyed with debt.
68. ṭāar ^ʳ a	Tara	gamittu	went			ṭāar ^ʳ a gamittu	Tara went
69. b ^h aar ^ʳ ja	wife	kaar ^ʳ aṅam	reason			b ^h aar ^ʳ ja kaar ^ʳ aṅam	because of the wife
70. ṇaṭi	actress	praartṭ ^h ittu	prayed			ṇaṭi praartṭ ^h ittu	actress prayed