

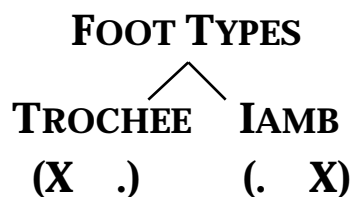


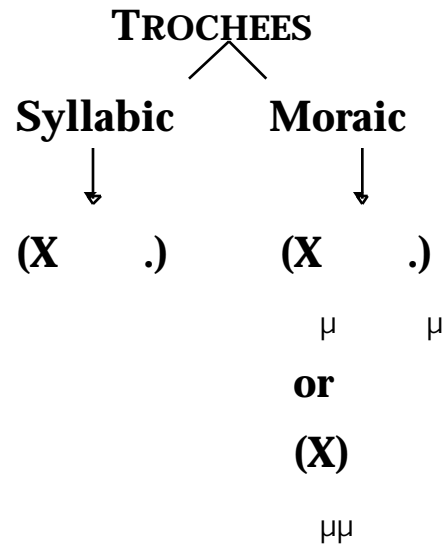
Armed with this background, we've looked at a number of examples that allowed us to examine the properties of rhythmic stress systems. Essentially, we came to see that the alternating pattern that stress systems display involve the construction of metrical feet. Metrical feet are binary units consisting of one strong element (the head) and one weak element. Constructing feet allows us to “count by units of two”. Of course, this simple picture is complicated by a number of factors, some of which we explored through a discussion of data sets in class. Here’s a brief review of important questions that we must answer when looking at a stress system.

- *Question 1: What kind of feet are we building?*

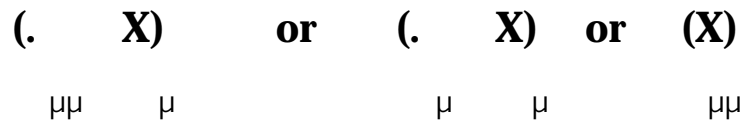
We’ve said a foot is a binary unit, i.e. a grouping of two elements. But, there are different ways to group two elements. In class, we saw evidence from a range of languages, aimed at showing us the different kind of feet that we find across languages. This resulted in our discovering an inventory of possible feet. This inventory consisted of two types of feet: trochaic feet and iambic feet.

The difference between an iamb and a trochee is that iambs have their “head” or prominent member on the right side of the foot ( . X), while trochees have their head on the left (X .). Additionally, the family of trochees breaks down a bit more. Some trochees are sensitive to syllable weight, while other trochees don’t care about the light/heavy distinction between syllables. We can capture this by saying that we have two types of trochees: syllabic trochees and moraic trochees. Syllabic trochees group adjacent syllables into a foot, while moraic trochees show more possibilities. A single heavy syllable can be a moraic trochee, or two light syllables can be a moraic trochee. For its part, the iamb is a bit different. Iambs don’t come in syllabic vs. moraic flavors. Instead, they are always sensitive to weight. Basically, the trick with the iamb is that the iamb wants to consist of a heavy followed by a light syllable, that is, it really wants the head to be heavier than the non-head. If that’s not possible, iambs will settle for a couple of other possibilities: either two light syllables or a single heavy. To make the whole thing easier to understand, I’ve broken down the foot inventory here:





### IAMBES



As you can observe, there is some overlap in that a heavy syllable alone is both a possible iamb and a possible trochee. Which it is depends on the system at hand, of course. As for the exam, you should be very familiar with the data that we used to motivate the foot inventory we've got here. Here's some help:

#### Trochees

- syllabic: Pintupi
- moraic: Fijian and Latin

#### Iambs

- Creek
- *Question 2: What is the direction of our foot building procedure?*

We also saw that whether we foot a word from left-to-right or right-to-left makes a difference. You should be able to show/explain why this is the case. Here's a couple of languages that exhibit different directionality with respect to foot construction.

**Left-to Right:**        Pintupi, Creek  
**Right to Left:**        Fijian, Wargamay

- Question 3: Do we build one foot or do we build feet across the whole string?

This is the iterativity parameter. Be able to explain/show what this means.

**Iterative foot construction:** Pintupi, Fijian, Wargamay, Creek

**Non-iterative foot construction:** Latin

- Question 4: Do we have degrees of stress, i.e. primary vs. secondary

If so, then we need an end rule. Examples:

End Rule Right: Fijian, Creek

End Rule Left: Wargamay, Pintupi

- Question 5: Do we allow degenerate feet?

What's a degenerate foot? This seemed to cause some confusion. Here's an easy way to remember. A degenerate foot is a foot that is too small. It doesn't have two elements. So, if we look at our charts of foot types above, we can see that no matter what type of system we are looking at, a degenerate foot is simply a foot that would consist of a single light (monomoraic) syllable, if we were to build it. So, if we leave a light syllable unfooted, then we haven't made a degenerate foot. It's when we actually make a foot with our parentheses and X marking the head on top of a light syllable that we've built a degenerate foot.

- Question 6: Does the language seem to "not count" a syllable at the right edge of the word when it's building feet?

This is called *extrametricality*. Latin has it. Be sure you know that extrametricality is a rule that is applied before you build foot structure. Be sure you can explain how extrametricality works. Also, remember that extrametricality can't make a whole word invisible. We call this the non-exhaustivity condition. This simply means that extrametricality can't swallow up the whole string of segments.

- Question 7: Does the language allow stress clash? If so, under what circumstances? If not, how can we write a rule to eliminate stress clash?

Stress clash arises when, after we've built our feet, two heads are adjacent. On your in-class handouts, Wargamay also needed a rule of stress clash resolution. In this case, the second of two consecutive heads is removed under clash.

- Question 8: Does our language seem to employ conflation?

Conflation is an odd thing. Basically, the idea is that conflation eliminates all of the bottom line footing, after you've built your feet and applied your end rule. The function of this is to eliminate secondary stresses that are predicted to arise because you've built feet all the way across a word. The reason we need conflation in some cases is that we can't get primary stress place by building just one foot at one edge of the word, as we did in Latin. Instead, we

appear to need to start our foot building from one side, but we need to place main stress at the other. This was the case in Seminole/Creek. Review the data and make sure you understand why we need to build feet from left to right, even though we only get one stress on the right edge of the word. The analysis that we pursued in class was to build feet all the way across the string, place main stress by End Rule Right, and then conflate to remove secondary stresses.

- Okay, here's how these questions translate to the parameters of stress systems:

**Foot Type: Trochee (syllabic or moraic)/Iamb**  
**Direction: Left-to-Right/Right-to-Left**  
**Iterative: YES/NO**  
**End Rule: Right/Left**  
**Degenerate Feet: YES/NO**  
**Conflation: YES/NO**

- Additional rules which a system might have:

**extrametricality:** < >/ \_\_\_\_#

**clash resolution: no one rule; rather, clashes are resolved/tolerated differently in different languages**

**Terms/concepts to be in control of:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trochee (moraic and syllabic)</li> <li>• iamb</li> <li>• quantity sensitivity (means that footing is sensitive to syllable weight)</li> <li>• quantity insensitive (means that footing isn't sensitive to syllable weight)</li> <li>• direction of footing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extrametricality</li> <li>• degenerate foot</li> <li>• conflation</li> <li>• iterative/non-iterative footing</li> <li>• stress clash</li> <li>• end rule</li> <li>• non-exhaustivity</li> </ul> |
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