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# EXFAC003-AAS v11 Language

□ 4: Language contact

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## Thanks to Alexander, Daniel and Katarzyna

□ Four new words for ‘pepper’

- Sogdian: **mr'ync'** (*marēnčka*)  
< Sanskrit *marica* ‘black pepper’
- Yaghnobi: **pelpel**  
< Sogdian *paḍpaḍ*  
< Sanskrit *pippali* ‘long pepper’
- Slovakian: **korenie** (‘spice’)
- Northern Saami: **bihpar**

□ Special mention to


- Per Henrik and Hrafnkell  
– It’s not too late...



**Ocak**  
January

Why study languages? calendar  
– one language per month

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## Course contents

1. Universals
2. Typology
3. Language families
4. **Language contact**
5. Language variation
6. Language death

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## Language contact

- Topics
- Four effects of language contact
  1. Borrowing / loanwords
  2. Code-switching
  3. Language shift / interference
  4. Language generation
- Linguistic areas

- Overview of linguistic areas
  - East and South-East Asia
  - Central Asia
  - South Asia
  - Australia
  - Polynesia
  - The Americas
  - The Middle East and North Africa
  - The Ethiopian peninsula
  - Central Africa
  - West Sahel
  - Coastal West Africa
  - Bantu languages
  - Khoisan languages

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## Borrowing

- ❑ In previous lectures:
- ❑ Two reasons why languages resemble each other
  - [Universal](#) and/or [typological](#) tendencies (Lecture 1 + 2)
  - Inheritance due to [genetic relationship](#) (Lecture 3)
- ❑ Here we consider a third reason
  - [Borrowing](#)

- ❑ Topics
  - Donor and recipient languages
  - Cultural vs. core borrowings
  - Phonetic form vs. semantic content
  - What can be borrowed?

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## Chinese grapes

ZHO 葡萄 pútáo 'grape' < Old Iranian /ba:da:wa:/

- ❑ Loaned more than two thousand years ago and still in use
  - Nobody would regard it as a foreign element
  - Belongs to Chinese as much as any indigenous word
  - Fully integrated into the language
  - The sense of belonging or adaptation is a matter of [degree](#)

LAT [cactus](#) > ENG [cactus](#), pl. cacti or cactuses

- ❑ Original plural form being adapted to English morphological system




photo by ben fin

Sense of belonging depends on the extent to which borrowed items are adapted to the
 

- [phonology](#)
- [writing system](#) and
- [grammar](#)

 of the borrowing language.

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# Japanese violins

JPN バイオリン *baiorin* < ENG 'violin'

- The Japanese sound system lacks [v] and [l]
  - [v] → [b]    [l] → [ɾ]

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Nasal	m		n			ŋ	
Plosive	p b		t d		k g		
Fricative		f v	s z				h
Flap			ɾ				
Approximant			ɹ	j	w		
Lateral approximant			l				



The Geisha HAWARYU – A Meiji-era Beauty from Old Japan. Image: Okinawa Soba

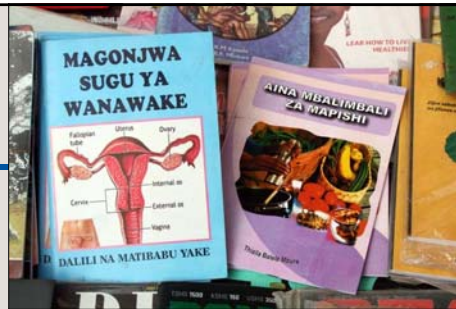
- Most Japanese know that the word comes from English
  - Some will even pronounce it with a [v]
  - Foreign origin also obvious from written form (katakana script)

JPN パン *pan* < POR *pão* 'bread'

- Still written in katakana even though borrowed several centuries ago
  - Otherwise fully integrated

# Swahili books

- Swahili (SWA, Bantu, E. Africa)
  - Elaborate noun class system
  - Many loan words from Arabic



class	semantics	prefix	singular	translation	plural
1, 2	persons	m-/mu-, wa-	mtu	person	watu
3, 4	trees, natural forces	m-/mu-, mi-	mti	tree	miti
5, 6	groups, aug.	Ø/ji-, ma-	jiicho	eye	macho
7, 8	artifacts, dim.	ki-, vi-	kisu	knife	visu
9, 10	animals, loanwords	Ø/n-, Ø/n-	ndoto	dream	ndoto
11, 12	extension	u-, Ø/n-	ua	fence, yard	nyua
14	abstraction	u-	utoto	childhood	—

- كتاب (kitaab) 'book' > *kitabu* (CL7), pl. *yitabu* (CL8)

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## Haba haba hujaza kibaba

when I's a little girl my grandma told me  
that is the little things in life that's gone  
make me happy

when I's a little girl my grandma told me  
that is the little things in life that's gone  
make me happy

she said that  
little by little  
fills up the measure  
don't ever give up  
keep on moving

little by little  
fills up the measure  
don't ever give up  
keep on moving

[haba haba, hujaza kibaba](#)



haba na haba hu-jaza ki-baba  
little and little HAB-fill\_up CL7-measure

**Kiswahili proverb**  
'little by little fills the measure'  
<http://www.kamu.si/en/lookup/sw?Word=kibaba>


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## Donor and recipient languages

- Borrowing involves
  - a **donor** language and a
  - **recipient** language
- Example
 

ENG **orangutan**  
< MSA **orang** 'man' + **utan** 'forest'

  - Donor language: **Malay**
  - Recipient language: **English**
- In principle: Any language can be donor or recipient
- In practice: Donor often enjoys greater prestige




- Colonialism
  - Vietnamese < French
  - Wolof < French (Senegal)
  - Wolof < English (Gambia)
- Great civilizations
  - **Chinese** > Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, etc.
  - **Arabic** > Urdu, Persian, Turkish, Swahili, Fula, etc.
  - **Persian** > Urdu, Turkish, etc.
- Dead languages
  - Ancient Greek, Latin, Sanskrit, Classical Chinese

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## Types of borrowing

Cultural borrowings are more common than core borrowings



People of the world unite, defeat the American imperialists and all their running dogs – all reactionaries are paper tigers

- ☐ Cultural borrowings
  - Elements that fill a lexical gap
  - JPN sushi
  - ZHO paper tiger
  - SWA safari
- ☐ Core borrowings
  - Elements that replace existing elements
  - ZHO zài-jàn → bái-bái 'bye-bye'
  - HIN dhyanavād → thankyū
  - URD shukriyā → thankyū

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## Phonetic form vs. semantic content


Meaning is more easily borrowed than sound

- ☐ Direct loans
  - Phonetic form borrowed and adapted
    - baiorin, sushi, orangutan, safari, kitabu
- ☐ Loan shift (semantic loans)
  - Indigenous word extends its meaning
    - XHO dìng 'fixed; stable' → 'meditative state'

- ☐ Loan translations (calques)
  - Foreign composite translated directly
    - XHO lán-méi 'blueberry' ('blue' + 'berry')
- ☐ Loan creations
  - New composite using indigenous elements
    - XHO diàn-nǎo 'computer' (lit. 'electric brain')
- ☐ Loan blends (hybrids)
  - Mixture of loan and translation
    - HIN/URD ḡabal kamrā 'double room'

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## What can be borrowed?



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- ❑ Almost anything can be borrowed
  - Sounds, meanings, word order, derivational affixes, inflections and grammatical categories
- ❑ Lexical items more easily than grammar and phonology
- ❑ Open word classes more easily than closed word classes
  - nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
  - pronouns, pre- and postpositions, conjunctions, etc.
- ❑ Nouns more easily borrowed than verbs, (e.g. JPN < ZHO)
- ❑ Peripheral vocabulary more easily than basic vocabulary
  - body parts, kinship terms, pronouns, basic verbs, etc. more resistant
- ❑ Derivational affixes easily borrowed
- ❑ Grammar with a wide scope more easily than grammar with a narrow scope
  - conjunctions (e.g. 'and') easier to borrow than TAM markers
- ❑ Sound system may be changed as a result of lexical borrowing

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## WOLD –

# World Loanword Database

<http://wold.livingsources.org/>




Loanwords  
in the World's  
Languages  
A Comparative  
Handbook  
Edited by  
Martin Haspelmath  
Uri Tadmor

- ❑ Database of “basic vocabulary”
  - 41 recipient languages
  - 369 donor languages
  - 1,000-2,000 words per language
  - 24 “semantic fields”
 

the physical world, kinship, animals, the body, food and drink, clothing and grooming, the house, agriculture and vegetation, basic actions and technology, motion, possession, spatial relations, quantity, time, sense perception, emotions and values, cognition, speech and language, social and political relations, warfare and hunting, law, religion and belief, modern world, miscellaneous function words
  - 1,460 “meanings”
    - 5.78 'olive' (0.93 %), 5.85 'sugar' (0.79 %), 5.92 'wine' (0.74 %), 5.93 'beer' (0.68 %), 5.27 'kettle' (0.68 %), 5.88 'cheese' (0.66 %), 5.82 'pepper' (0.66 %)

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## Code-switching

Lakini niko sure ukienda after two days utaipata Uchimi Supermarket kwa wingi  
 'But I am sure if you go after two days you will find it at Uchimi Supermarket in abundance.'

- Switch between two (or more) different language codes in a single stretch of discourse
- One language is primary, the other secondary
  - Sometimes these also switch
- Grammatical elements come from primary language


- Motivations for code-switching
  1. To fill a lexical gap
  2. To express the pragmatic force or the "feeling" more precisely
  3. To signal in-group membership of two communities
  4. To signal change of attitude
  5. To mark emphatic repetition
  6. As a discourse marker (marking significant boundaries in the conversation)

Adam-lar yer-i vask-e yap-iyor  
 man-PL floor-ACC wash-INF do-PROG/3SG  
 'The men are washing the floor'

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## The death of Manchu

- Manchu is a dying language
  - 60 speakers in 1999 out of an ethnic population of over 10 million
  - It was "killed" by Chinese...



In 1644, the last emperor of the Ming dynasty in China hanged himself after Manchu invaders had entered Beijing, and the Manchus subsequently ruled China until the fall of the empire in 1911. By then, however, virtually all Manchus spoke Chinese. Far from protecting their linguistic heritage, political power had made it all the more important for the Manchus to learn Chinese, and their loss of power eventually also led to the loss of their own language. Today the Manchu language is all but extinct...

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## Pan Jin-yu (1914–2010)



Pan Jin-yu (Chinese: 潘金玉, July 21, 1914 - October 24, 2010) was the last remaining speaker of the Pazeh language of Taiwan. She was born the fifth of six children in 1914 to Kaxabu-speaking parents in Puli. Later, she was adopted by parents who were Pazeh speakers living in Auran village (Taiwanese: Ailan), which is now part of Puli township. She was said to be fully fluent in the language, despite being the only remaining speaker. However, Taiwanese Hokkien was the living language she spoke generally. She taught Pazeh classes to about 200 regular students in Puli and there were also classes with fewer students in Miaoli and Taichung.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pan\\_Jin-yu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pan_Jin-yu)

## Language shift

- Manchu and Pazeh are examples of [language shift](#)
  - Process by which the language of one community is replaced by the language of another community
- Leads often to [language death](#)
  - Common phenomena throughout history
  - Accelerating today under the impact of globalization
  - A local language disappears every two weeks...
- Languages that retreat or disappear often leave behind a very noticeable trace in the languages that take over
  - [Superstrate language](#) subject to [interference](#) from the [substrate language](#)



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## Superstrate and substrate languages

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- ❑ North Indian languages
  - Share many features with Dravidian languages (South India)
  - [Indo-Aryan](#) languages picked up many [Dravidian](#) traits, e.g. [retroflex stops](#)
- ❑ Chinese
  - [Northern dialects](#) share features with Altaic languages
    - longer words, more use of stress
  - [Southern dialects](#) with Austro-Asiatic and Tai-Kadai languages
    - shorter words, more use of tone
- ❑ Arabic
  - [Maghrebi Arabic](#): elements < [Berber](#)
  - [Syrian and Iraqi Arabic](#): < [Aramaic](#)
  - [Sudanese Arabic](#): < [Nubian](#)

- ❑ English
  - Spread widely through British colonization (e.g. India, Singapore)
  - More and more children grow up with English as L1
  - Shift only partial, most children bilingual (or multilingual)
  - Substrate interference has created new and characteristic variants of English
- ❑ Indian English
  - Different variants, depending both on substrate language and on the degree of interference (“Hinglish”)
- ❑ Singapore English
  - “Singlish” shows interference from Chinese dialects and Malay

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## Lexical interference

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- ❑ Vocabulary often not strongly affected by substrate interference
  - Words are borrowed, but not to much greater extent than in other situations
  - Follow the general trend
    - [cultural borrowings](#) more common than [core borrowings](#)
    - [meaning](#) more easily borrowed than [sound](#)
- ❑ Examples from Indian English

- ❑ “[The Prophet](#)”
  - Satirical poem written in exaggerated version of Indian English
- ❑ Borrowings
  - [goonda](#) ‘hooligan’
  - [lassi](#) ‘yoghurt drink’
  - [behn](#) ‘sister’
  - [wallah](#) ‘(agentive suffix)’
- ❑ Loan shifts
  - [too much](#) (= ‘a lot of’)
  - [harass](#) (= ‘bother’)

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I am standing for peace and non-violence.  
 Why world is fighting fighting  
 Why all people of world  
 Are not following Mahatma Gandhi,  
 I am simply not understanding.  
 Ancient Indian Wisdom is 100% correct,  
 I should say even 200% correct,  
 But modern generation is neglecting –  
Too much going for fashion and foreign thing.

Other day I'm reading newspaper  
 (Every day I'm reading Times of India  
 To improve my English Language)  
 How one goonda fellow  
 Threw stone at Indirabehn.  
 Must be student unrest fellow, I am thinking.  
 Friends, Romans, Countrymen, I am saying  
 (to myself)  
 Lend me the ears.  
 Everything is coming -  
 Regeneration, Remuneration, Contraception.  
 Be patiently, brothers and sisters.

You want one glass lassi?  
 Very good for digestion.  
 With little salt, lovely drink,  
 Better than wine;

Not that I am ever tasting the wine.  
 I'm the total teetotaller, completely total,  
 But I say  
 Wine is for the drunkards only.

What you think of prospects of world  
 peace?  
 Pakistan behaving like this,  
 China behaving like that,  
 It is making me really sad, I am telling you.  
 Really, most harassing me.  
 All men are brothers, no?  
 In India also  
 Gujaratis, Maharashtrians, Hindiwallahs  
 All brothers --  
 Though some are having funny habits.  
 Still, you tolerate me,  
 I tolerate you,  
 One day Ram Rajya is surely coming.

You are going?  
 But you will visit again  
 Any time, any day,  
 I am not believing in ceremony  
 Always I am enjoying your company.

*The Patriot – Nissim Ezekiel*

## Grammatical interference




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- Substrate influence on grammar quite common
  - More examples from “The Patriot”...
- Reduplication
  - Why world is fighting fighting
- Lack of articles
  - threw stone at Indirabehn
  - all people of world
- Use of ‘one’ instead of ‘a’
  - You want one glass lassi?
- Excessive use of ‘the’
  - Not that I am ever tasting the wine
- Omission of direct object
  - Modern generation is neglecting
- Excessive use of continuous
  - I am standing for peace and non-violence


<p>I am <b>standing</b> for peace and non-violence.          Why world is <b>fighting fighting</b>          Why <b>all people of world</b>          Are not <b>following</b> Mahatma Gandhi,          I am simply not <b>understanding</b>.          Ancient Indian Wisdom is 100% correct,          I should say even 200% correct,          But <b>modern generation</b> is <b>neglecting</b>-          Too much going for fashion and foreign thing.</p> <p>Other day I'm <b>reading newspaper</b>          (Every day I'm <b>reading</b> Times of India          To improve my English Language)          How <b>one</b> goonda fellow          Threw <b>stone</b> at Indirabehn.          Must be <b>student unrest fellow</b>, I am <b>thinking</b>.          Friends, Romans, Countrymen, I am <b>saying</b>          (to myself)          Lend me <b>the</b> ears.          Everything is coming -          Regeneration, Remuneration, Contraception.          Be patiently, brothers and sisters.</p> <p>You want <b>one</b> glass lassi?          Very good for <b>digestion</b>.          With <b>little salt</b>, <b>lovely drink</b>,          Better than wine;</p>	<p>Not that I am ever <b>tasting the</b> wine.          I'm <b>the</b> total teetotaller, completely total,          But I say          Wine is for <b>the</b> drunkards only.</p> <p>What you think of <b>prospects</b> of world          peace?          Pakistan behaving like this,          China behaving like that,          It is <b>making</b> me really sad, I am telling you.          Really, most <b>harassing</b> me.          All men are brothers, no?          In India also          Gujaratis, Maharashtrians, Hindiwallahs          All brothers -          Though some are <b>having</b> funny habits.          Still, you tolerate me,          I tolerate you,          One day Ram Rajya is surely <b>coming</b>.</p> <p>You are going?          But you will visit again          Any time, any day,          I am not <b>believing</b> in ceremony          Always I am <b>enjoying</b> your company.</p> <p><i>The Patriot</i> – Nissim Ezekiel</p>
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## Phonological interference




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- Standard British English to Indian English:
  - [θ] → [ʈ] (as in *think*)
  - [ð] → [d] (as in *thus*)
  - [t] → [ʈ] (as in *tin*)
  - [d] → [d] (as in *do*)
- (Dental plosives and retroflex plosives not found in English)
- Also:
  - stress patterns
  - phonotactic rules



[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nG\\_crqCznLs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nG_crqCznLs)

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## Language generation

- ❑ Language contact can result in new languages
- ❑ Two kinds
  - Pidgins, e.g. [Russenorsk](#)
  - Creoles, e.g. [Bislama](#)
- ❑ Products of situations not conducive to bilingualism
  - Trade, enslavement, migration
  - Usual scenario
    - vocabulary from superstrate
    - grammar from substrate
- ❑ **Pidgins**
  - Not full languages
  - Simpler than source languages
    - fewer words, less inflection
    - restricted range of phonological and grammatical options
- ❑ **Creoles**
  - Full languages
  - Created by second generation pidgin speakers
    - larger vocabulary
    - more complex grammar

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## Pidgins Russenorsk


- ❑ Language of 'pomor' trade
  - Used by Russian traders and Norwegian fishermen in Northern Norway
  - 18th and 19th Century
- ❑ About 400 words attested
  - Mostly related to fish, the weather and trade



<i>Moja</i>	<i>på</i>	<i>tvoja</i>		
моѿ	пá <sup>n</sup>	твоѿ		
	по <sup>r</sup>			
my	in	your		
<i>I speak in your language</i>				

<i>Kak</i>	<i>sprek?</i>	<i>Moja</i>	<i>njet</i>	<i>forsto</i>
как <sup>r</sup>	sprá <sup>n</sup>	моѿ	нет <sup>r</sup>	forstå <sup>n</sup>
how	speak?	my	no	understand
<i>What are you saying? I don't understand</i>				

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## Creoles Bislama

An official language of Vanuatu (L1 and L2)

- Originated among slave workers on plantations in Australia and Fiji
- English vocabulary (95%)
- Oceanic grammar

Pronouns

person	SG	DU	TR	PL
1	(incl.) <b>mi</b>	<b>yumitu</b>	<b>yumitrifala</b>	<b>yumi</b>
	(excl.) <b>-</b>	<b>mitufala</b>	<b>mitrifala</b>	<b>mifala</b>
2	<b>yu</b>	<b>yutufala</b>	<b>yutrifala</b>	<b>yufala</b>
3	<b>hem</b>	<b>tufala</b>	<b>trifala</b>	<b>olgeta</b>

Prepositions


- **blong** = of (gen.) < 'belong'
- **buk blong mi** 'my book'
- **man blong Amerika** 'American'
- **long** = at, to, in, by, beside, ...
- **jea long haos** 'The chair in the house'

Verbs

- **mi wantem bia** 'I want beer'
- **mi bin wantem bia** 'I wanted beer'
- **bambae mi wantem bia** 'I will want beer'

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## National anthem of Vanuatu



Bislama

Yumi, yumi, yumi i glat long talem se  
 Yumi, yumi, yumi ol man blong Vanuatu

God i givim ples ia long yumi,  
 Yumi glat tumas long hem,  
 Yumi strong mo yumi fri long hem,  
 Yumi brata evriwan!

Plante fasin blong bifo i stap,  
 Plante fasin blong tedei,  
 Be yumi i olsem wan nomo,  
 Hemia fasin blong yumi!

Yumi save plante wok i stap,  
 Long ol aelan blong yumi,  
 God i helpem yumi evriwan,  
 Hem i papa blong yumi!

English


We, we, we are happy to proclaim  
 We, we, we are the people of Vanuatu

God has given us this land,  
 We have great cause for rejoicing  
 We are strong and we are free in this land  
 We are all brothers

There were many ways before  
 There are many ways today  
 But we are all one  
 Despite our many ways

We work hard  
 On our many islands  
 God helps us in our work  
 He is Our Father!

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## Common features of language contact


- ❑ Four language contact phenomena
  - Borrowing, code-switching, language shift, language generation
- ❑ Superficially different, different terminology
  - Commonalities relating to the role of L1 and L2

	L1	L2
Borrowing	recipient language	donor language
Code-switching	primary language	secondary language
Language shift	substrate language	superstrate language
Language generation	substrate language	superstrate language

	L1	L2
Providing	grammar and phonology	lexicon
Social status	lower prestige	higher prestige


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## Linguistic areas

- ❑ “Sprachbund”
  - Geographic area in which languages tend to share significant traits that are not inherited from a common ancestor language
- ❑ Still, languages may or may not come from a common ancestor
  - Not always easy to distinguish a linguistic area from an area where related languages share features inherited from a common ancestor
  - Earlier belief that only vocabulary can be borrowed led to suggested relationships based on typological traits
    - e.g. Chinese and Thai (tonal, monosyllabic, uninflected)
- ❑ Language tree model is an idealization
  - In some cases the ‘tree’ looks more like a thicket...
- ❑ Contact-induced similarities often more apparent than family resemblances:
  - ❑ **Hindi/English**
    - Few overt similarities despite being related
    - Both Indo-European
  - ❑ **Hindi/Tamil**
    - Many similarities despite being unrelated
    - Indo-European and Dravidian
  - ❑ **Cantonese/Vietnamese**
    - Sino-Tibetan and Austroasiatic
    - Perceived to be more similar than
  - ❑ **Cantonese/Tibetan**
    - Both Sino-Tibetan, but geographically more distant

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## Macro-areas and micro-areas

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- Macro-areas
  - Large geographical areas, e.g.
  - Eurasian SOV belt
    - Turkey in the West through Iran, Tibet, Mongolia, Korea to Japan in the East, and down to the whole of South Asia
    - Includes languages from Altaic, Indo-European, Dravidian, Sino-Tibetan and Austro-Asiatic
  - Sub-Saharan Africa
- Micro-areas
  - Smaller geographical areas, e.g. Balkan Sprachbund
    - Albanian, Romanian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, (Greek)

- East and South-East Asia
- Central Asia
- South Asia
- Australia
- Polynesia
- The Americas
- The Middle East and North Africa
- The Ethiopian peninsula
- Central Africa
- West Sahel
- Coastal West Africa
- Bantu languages
- Khoisan languages

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## Areal features

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- Word order (SOV, SVO or VSO)
  - SOV languages: postpositions; adjectives, genitives and relative clauses before the head noun
  - SVO and VSO languages: prepositions; adjectives, genitives and relative clauses after the head noun
- Case marking
  - Marking of syntactic functions, etc. through morphology (affixes, vowel change etc.) or function words
- Monosyllabic
  - Tendency for morphemes and sometimes words to be monosyllabic

- Morphological type
  - Analytic, agglutinative, flective or polysynthetic
- Reduplication
  - Frequent use of full or partial reduplication in word formation
    - e.g. Tamil avan-avan 'each man, every man', vantu-vantu 'coming time and again'
- Classifiers/noun classes
  - Classifiers: words used between numerals and nouns
  - Noun classes: groups of nouns with common inflectional features
- Tones
  - No tones, level tones, contour tones

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SVO • +CASE • +MONO • ANALYTIC • +REDUP • CLASSIF. • CONTOUR  
 Mood particles; Adj = V

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## East and S-E Asia

- Location
  - China and South-East Asian mainland (excl. Malaysia)
  - Also N-E India, Himalayas, islands of S-E Asia, [Korea and Japan]
- Language families
  - Sino-Tibetan, Austro-asiatic, Tai-Kadai, Hmong-mien
  - Chinese slightly exceptional
    - preposed adjectives, etc.
  - Some features shared with Tibeto-Burman
- Most widespread characteristic is the use of classifiers
  - Continuous belt from Bengali in the West throughout South-East Asia, including the Austronesian language Malay, up through Tibet and China, reaching as far as Korea and Japan

- Large number of contour tones
- Monosyllabic morphemes
- Typical SVO word order
  - prepositions, postposed adjectives, genitives, relative clauses
- Extensive repertory of classifiers
- Reduplication commonly used for word formation
- No case marking

	THIN & FLAT THINGS	BOOKS & NOTEBOOKS	THIN & LONG THINGS	FLOORS OF BUILDING
1	いちまい	いっさつ	いっほん	いっかい
2	にまい	にさつ	にほん	にがい
3	さんまい	さんさつ	さんほん	さんがい
4	よんまい	よんさつ	よんほん	よんがい

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## Classifiers in Japanese

- Measure words used when counting different kinds of objects
  - **dai** – cars, bicycles, machines, mechanical devices, household appliances
  - **hiki, piki, biki** – small animals, insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, demons/ogres ('oni')
  - **hon, pon, bon** – long, thin objects: rivers, roads, train tracks, ties, pencils, bottles, guitars; also, metaphorically, telephone calls, train or bus routes, movies, points or bounds in sports events.
  - **mai** – thin, flat objects: sheets of paper, photographs, plates, articles of clothing
  - **nin** – people
    - etc. (over 100 in Japanese)

Japanese	English (literal)
鉛筆五本 enpitsu go-hon	pencil five-CLS
犬三匹 inu san-biki	dog three-CLS
子供四人 kodomo yo-nin	child four-CLS
鶏三羽 niwatori san-ba	chicken three-CLS
ヨット三艘 yotto san-sō	yacht three-CLS
車一台 kuruma ichi-dai	car one-CLS
トランプ二枚 toranpu ni-mai	playing card two-CLS


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SOV • +CASE • +MONO • AGGLUT • +REDUP • +GENUS • +TONE  
Vowel harmony; vowel richness

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## Central Asia

- Location
  - From Turkey to Mongolia and N-E Siberia
- Language families
  - Turkic, Mongolian, Tungusic
  - Language area or language family?
    - Turkic + Mongolian + Tungusic = Altaic?
    - Korean, Japanese, Ainu?
  - Related to Uralic languages?



- Vowel harmony
  - last vowel of word stem determines vowel of suffix
    - *ev-ler-den* 'house'
    - *adam-lar-dan* 'man'
- Agglutinative morphology
  - plural suffix *-ler/-lar*
  - ablative suffix *-den/-dan*
- Typical SOV word order
  - postpositions, preposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses
- Rich vowel systems
  - front and back vowels exhibit roundedness distinction
- Case marking
  - large number of case forms

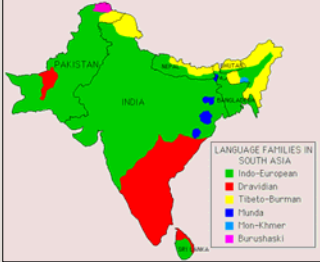
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SOV • +CASE • +MONO • FLECTIVE • +REDUP • +GENUS • +TONE  
Retroflexes; moods and impersonal forms

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## South Asia

- Location
  - Most of India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
- Language families
  - Indo-European (Indo-Aryan)
  - Dravidian
  - Austro-Asiatic (Munda and Mon-Khmer)
  - Sino-Tibetan (Tibeto-Burman)



- Retroflex consonants
  - Tip of the tongue against back of gums
- Rich modal distinctions (verb mood)
  - Speaker's interest or somebody else's
  - Speaker approves or disapproves
- Impersonal constructions
  - *Swimming comes to me* = 'I can swim'
  - *To me knowledge does not exist* = 'I don't know'
- Typical SOV word order
  - Postpositions, preposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses
- Gender and case
- Reduplication in word formation
- Flective and agglutinative

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(WO) ~ • ERG • +MONO • FLECTIVE • ?REDUP • +GENUS • +TONES  
 Few vowels; no fricatives or voicing

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## Australia

**Dyirbal (N.E. Queensland)**

A speaker was completely forbidden from speaking with his/her mother-in-law, child-in-law, father's sister's child or mother's brother's child, and from approaching or looking directly at these people. In addition, when within hearing range of taboo relatives a person was required to use a specialised and complex form of the language with essentially the same phonemes and grammar, but with a lexicon that shared no words with the non-taboo language. This phenomenon, commonly called mother-in-law languages, was common in indigenous Australian languages. It existed until about 1930 when the taboo system fell out of use.

**Avoidance languages**

Also found in North America and Africa (e.g. the Zulu and Xhosa system of *ukuhlonipha* 'respect').

- ❑ Mother-in-law languages (avoidance languages)
  - Vocabulary used only in the presence of certain close relatives
- ❑ Speech taboos
  - e.g. during periods of mourning or initiation
- ❑ Few vowel phonemes, often only three
- ❑ No fricatives
- ❑ No distinction between voiced and unvoiced stops
- ❑ Ergativity
  - Intransitive subject marked like transitive object
  - Intransitive            *njuma*            *banaganyu*  
   'Father returned.'    father-ABS    returned
  - Transitive            *yabu*            *njuma-ngu buran*  
   'Father saw mother'   mother-ABS    father-ERG    saw
  - Transitive            *njuma*            *yabu-ngu buran*  
   'Mother saw father.'   father-ABS    mother-ERG    saw

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SVO/VS0 • +CASE • +MONO • ANALYTIC • +REDUP • +GENUS • +TONE  
 Complex system of possessive markers

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## Polynesia

- ❑ Location
  - Mostly island dwellers: Madagascar, Hawai'i, Indonesia, New Zealand, Philippines, Taiwan, Pacific Islands
  - Some mainland speakers: Malay peninsula & Vietnam
- ❑ Language families
  - Austronesian
  - Language area or just one language family?

- ❑ Little inflection, more derivation
  - Infixes in Tagalog  
*sumulat* 'writer' < *sulat* 'write'
  - Reduplication in Malay  
*babi-babi* 'pigs'
- ❑ Marking of several types of possession, e.g. Fijian
  - Inalienable things: body parts (arm), kinship relations (mother), etc.
  - Food: taro, tobacco, etc.
  - Drink: tea, oyster, orange, etc.
  - Various: house, work, etc.

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(WO) ~ • +CASE • +MONO • POLY • +REDUP • GENUS/CLASSIF • +TONES  
 Head marking; few vowels, many consonants

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## North America

- ❑ Location
  - North America
- ❑ Language families
  - Joseph Greenberg: 4
  - Lyle Campbell: ca. 100

- ❑ Large parts (but not all) exhibit:
- ❑ Polysynthetic morphology
  - KAL: *Utaqqiguvinga, aullaqatiginiaqpagit*  
 "If you wait for me, I will go with you"
- ❑ Relatively few vowel phonemes, usually 4-5
- ❑ Many consonant phonemes
  - Including pharyngeals, epiglottals, and ejective consonants (not common elsewhere)
- ❑ Head-marking
  - Relations between the constituents of a phrase or clause marked on the head and not on the modifiers
  - e.g. genitive is not marked on the modifier, as in English *the dog's house*, but on the head (in this case *house*)

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not SOV • ?CASE • +MONO • AGGLUT • +REDUP • +GENUS • +TONES  
 Relational nouns; vigesimal numerals

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## Meso-America

- ❑ Location
  - Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica
- ❑ Language families
  - Uto-Aztecan, Mayan, Totonacan, Oto-Manguéan, Mixe-Zoquean

- ❑ Possession expressed as *his N1 N2 (= N2's N1)*
  - 'the man's dog' expressed as *his-dog the man*
- ❑ Spatial relations expressed by relational nouns, not adpositions
  - 'on me' = *my-head*
  - 'behind it' = *its-back*
- ❑ Vigesimal numeral systems
  - Based on combinations of 20
- ❑ Widespread use of compounds
  - *leg-head* 'knee'
  - *bird-stone* 'egg'
  - *blood-road* 'vein'
  - *hand-mother* 'thumb'

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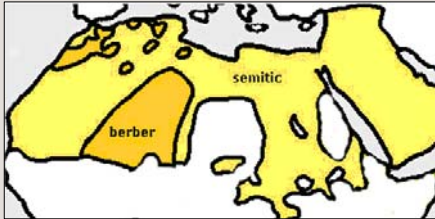
VSO/SVO • +CASE • +MONO • FLECTIVE • +REDUP • +GENUS • +TONE  
Emphatic consonants; consonantal stems

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## Middle East and North Africa

- Location
  - Middle East and North Africa
- Language families
  - Semitic and Berber (both Afroasiatic)
  - Some shared features not due to common origin
  - Arabic, Berber, Hebrew

- Consonantal stems
  - Inflected by inserting different vowels in different forms, such as Arabic
    - *kitāb* 'book' vs. *kutub* 'books' < k-t-b
  - Loanwords adapted to this system
    - plural of film = *aflām*
    - the plural of bank = *bunūk*
- Emphatic (pharyngealized) consonants
  - Arabic *ṭ, ḍ, ẓ* and *ṣ*, pronounced while retracting the root of the tongue to create contraction in the pharynx
- Originally VSO word order
  - prepositions, postposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses
    - Modern Hebrew and modern colloquial Arabic usually considered to be SVO
    - Berber and standard Arabic still VSO



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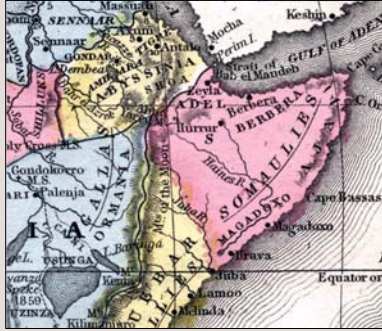
SOV • +CASE • +MONO • FLECTIVE • +REDUP • +GENUS • LEVEL  
Ejective implosives

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## The Ethiopian peninsula

- Location
  - Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia)
- Language families
  - 80 different Afroasiatic languages (Semitic, Omotic and Cushitic branches)

- Ejectives and implosives
  - A special series of consonant phonemes which may be pronounced as ejectives or implosives. Unvoiced implosives are only found in this area.
- Quantity (length) distinctions in both vowels and consonants.
- Simple tone systems
  - level tones high and low
  - combinations like high to low (falling) or low to high (rising).
- Typical SOV word order
  - postpositions, preposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses




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SVO • +CASE • +MONO • FLECTIVE • +REDUP • +GENUS • (LEVEL)  
Initial mutation

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## West Sahel

- Location
  - Savannah areas south of the Sahara
- Language families
  - Atlantic branch of Niger-Congo (Wolof, Fula, etc.)



- Initial mutation
  - Changes in initial consonant used as inflectional and derivational marker
  - Fula plural forms:
    - gite* 'eyes' < *yitere* 'eye'
    - fulbe* 'Fula persons' < *pullo* 'Fula person'
- Extensive gender system
  - Fula has 24 noun classes
- No tones
- Typical SVO word order
  - prepositions, postposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses


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SVO/SOV • +CASE • +MONO • ANALYTIC • +REDUP • +GENUS • LEVEL

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## Coastal West Africa

- Language families
  - Various subgroups of Niger-Congo: Kwa, Kru, Benue-Congo (except Bantu)
- Languages
  - Yoruba, Ewe, etc.



- Predominantly monosyllabic words or morphemes, at least in verbs
- Little if any inflection
- Complex tone system
  - level tones (high, mid, low)
  - combinations of level tones
- Labio-velar stops
  - [kp, gb, ŋm]
- Typical SVO word order
  - prepositions, postposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses
- Similarities with San and with East and S-E Asia
  - analytic, monosyllabic, tonal, SVO


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SVO • +CASE • +MONO • ?MTYPE • ?REDUP • +NC RELICS • LEVEL  
 Labial flaps; labial-velar consonants

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## Central Africa

- ❑ Location
  - North of the Bantu area: Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (Zaire), West Cameroon, Southern Sudan, parts of Nigeria and Chad
- ❑ Languages
  - Many small, undocumented languages



- ❑ Labial flaps, labiovelar stops, labiovelar nasals
  - Not found in other parts of the world
- ❑ No noun classes
  - Except some vestiges of a past noun class system
- ❑ A complex tone system
  - level tones (high, mid, low)
  - combinations of level tones
- ❑ Typical SVO word order
  - prepositions, postposed adjectives, genitives and relative clauses


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SVO • +CASE • +MONO • AGGLUT • +REDUP • +GENUS • LEVEL  
 Agreement

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## Bantu languages

- ❑ Sub-branch of Niger-Congo
  - Many commonalities due to genetic relationship
- ❑ Swahili is atypical in that it lacks tones
  - Others: Xhosa and Zulu (South Africa)



- ❑ Much use of agreement
  - subject-verb, object-verb, modifier-noun

kikapu kikubwa kimoja  
 kilianguka  
 vikapu vikubwa vitatu  
 vilianguka
- ❑ Much inflection
  - verb morphology particularly complex

ni-	na-	ki-	som-a
1SG/SUB			PRES
			CL7/OBJ
			read
			IND

'I am reading it.'

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SOV/SVO • +CASE • ±MONO • FLECT?/ANAL. • ?REDUP • +GENUS • LEVEL  UNIVERSITETET I OSLO  
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Clicks; consonant clusters


## Khoisan languages

- ❑ 30 languages spoken by so-called Bushmen and Hottentots in Southern Africa
  - Most characteristic feature: clicks
- ❑ Xhosa and Zulu have adopted three
  - c – ‘dental click’ (“tut-tut”)
  - q – ‘palatal click’ (champagne cork)
  - x – ‘lateral click’ (cantering horse)
  - Xhosa Tongue Twister Lesson in South Africa
    - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZlp-croVYw>



- ❑ **Khoi languages**
  - SOV word order
    - postpositions, preposed adjectives and genitives
    - postposed relative clauses
  - Words and morphemes are often polysyllabic
  - Much inflection and derivation
- ❑ **San languages**
  - SVO word order
    - postposed adjectives and relative clauses
    - preposed genitives
    - both pre- and postpositions
- ❑ Words or morphemes tend to be monosyllabic
- ❑ Little/no inflection/derivation

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## Next week: Language variation (?)

- ❑ Further reading on language contact
  - Gardner-Chloros, Penelope. 2009. *Code-switching*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
  - Haspelmath, Martin and Uri Tadmor. 2009. *Loanwords in the World's Languages: A Comparative Handbook*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter
    - online version: <http://wold.livingsources.org/>
  - Matras, Yaron. 2009. *Language Contact*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
  - Thomason, Sarah. 2001. *Language Contact – An Introduction*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
  - Winford, Donald. 2002. *An Introduction to Contact Linguistics*. London: Blackwell

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