

Words so nice they say them twice: Full reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškíin/Sahaptin

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What is reduplication?

“Reduplication refers to a word formation process that repeats all or part of a word or phrase.”

(Urbanczyk, 2007:473)

English contrastive focus reduplication

“But do you like her, or do you LIKE-like her?”

“I’ll make the tuna salad, and you make the SALAD-salad.”

(Ghomeshi et al., 2004)

English schm- reduplication

fancy-schmancy

breakfast-schmeakfast

breakfast-schmreakfast

Why study reduplication?

Meaning: What is the reduplication used to express?

Form: What material gets copied, and in what ways does the copy resemble or differ from the base?

Ičiškíin – Umatilla Sahaptin



https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/updates/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/CRITFC_graphic.png

Reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

Variety of types found in the lexicon

Understanding how it works is useful for learners & teachers

Reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

1. Initial consonant reduplication

Reduplication	Meaning	Simplex
ttíxš	willow	cf. táxs, willow (Nez Perce)
kkís	little, small (distributive)	cf. kskís little, small (singular/ individuated)

Reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

2. Internal reduplication

Reduplication	Meaning	Simplex
ł <i>wi</i> wáy	very slow	cf. łwáy, slow

Reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

3. Partial reduplication or reduplication plus morpheme

wašwáš <u>nu</u>	chicken	(cf. miimá <u>nu</u> , owl)
<u>ł</u> káw'kaw	Oregon grape	

Reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

4. Full reduplication

Reduplication	Meaning	Simplex	Meaning
íkusíkusí	dog	íkúsi	horse

Including examples with derivational suffixes, which don't participate in reduplication:

Reduplication	Meaning	Simplex	Meaning
łúpłupn	jump up and down	łúp ⁿ	jump once

Previous descriptions

“There are two types of noun and verb duplication, one being simple duplication to express distributive plural number and one [...] occurring hand in hand with consonant changes to express diminutive nuances. A few rare duplications seem to express other ideas, but they represent processes of no great moment in the language; [...]. The others are undoubtedly survivals; some serve to express ideas of augmentation or intensification.”

(Jacobs, 1931:135)

Previous descriptions – Nez Perce

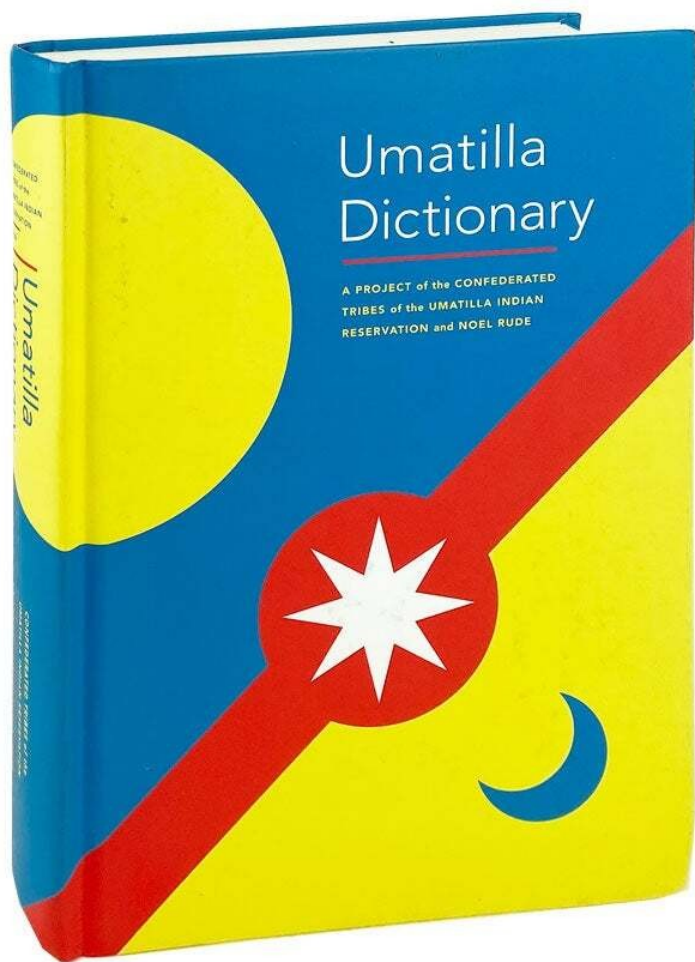
For Nez Perce, Aoki provides a huge number of examples.

“Complete reduplication seems to be by far the most productive type. It may occur with nouns, or with denominative adjectives.”

(Aoki, 1963)

Plenty to look into!

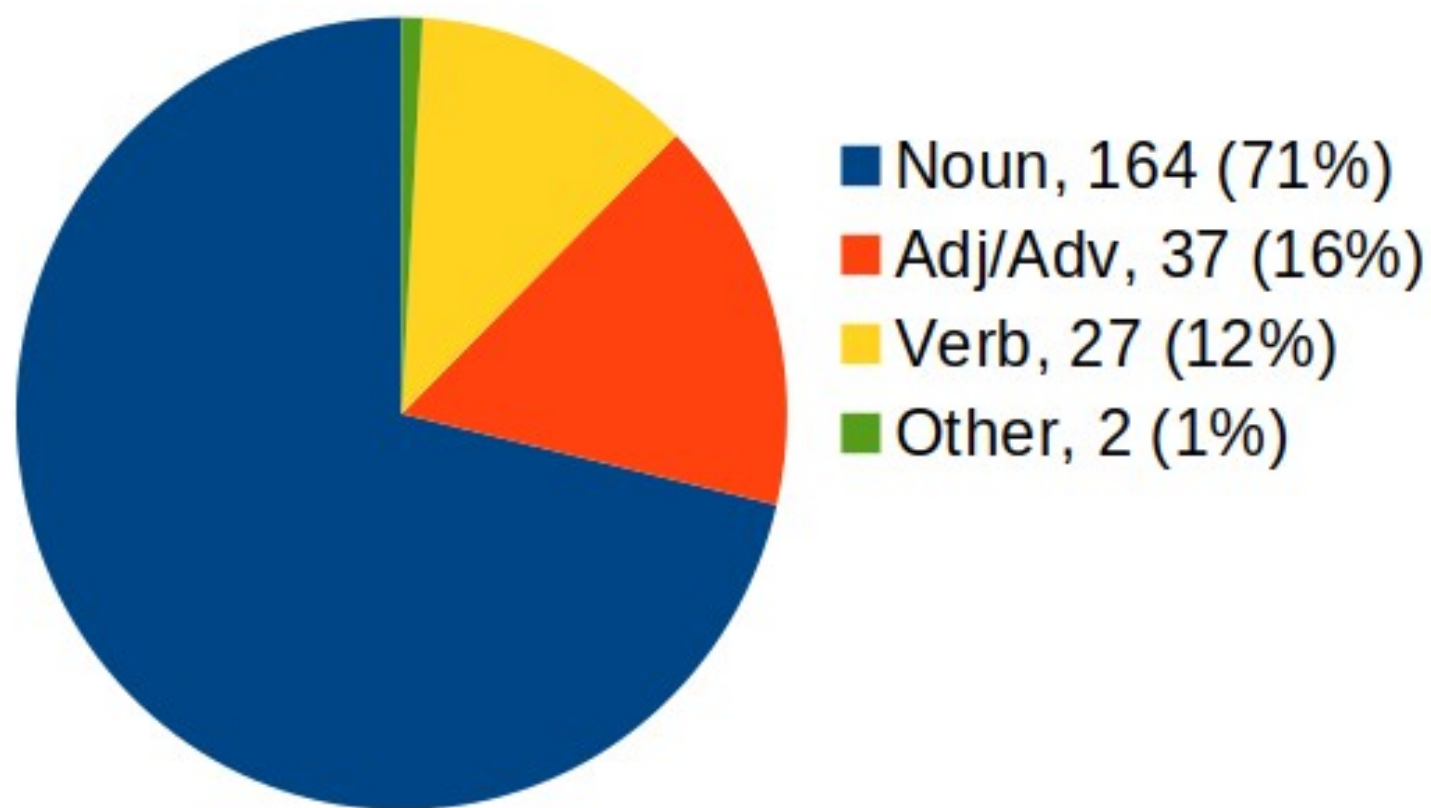
Umatilla Dictionary



- **Published in 2014**
- **Written by Dr. Noel Rude**
- **Primarily based on speech of Twáway, Inez Spino Reves**
- **Dictionary: 5,636 entries**
- **Full reduplication: ~230 (4%)**

Full reduplication in Umatilla Ičiškín

Full reduplication
230 examples

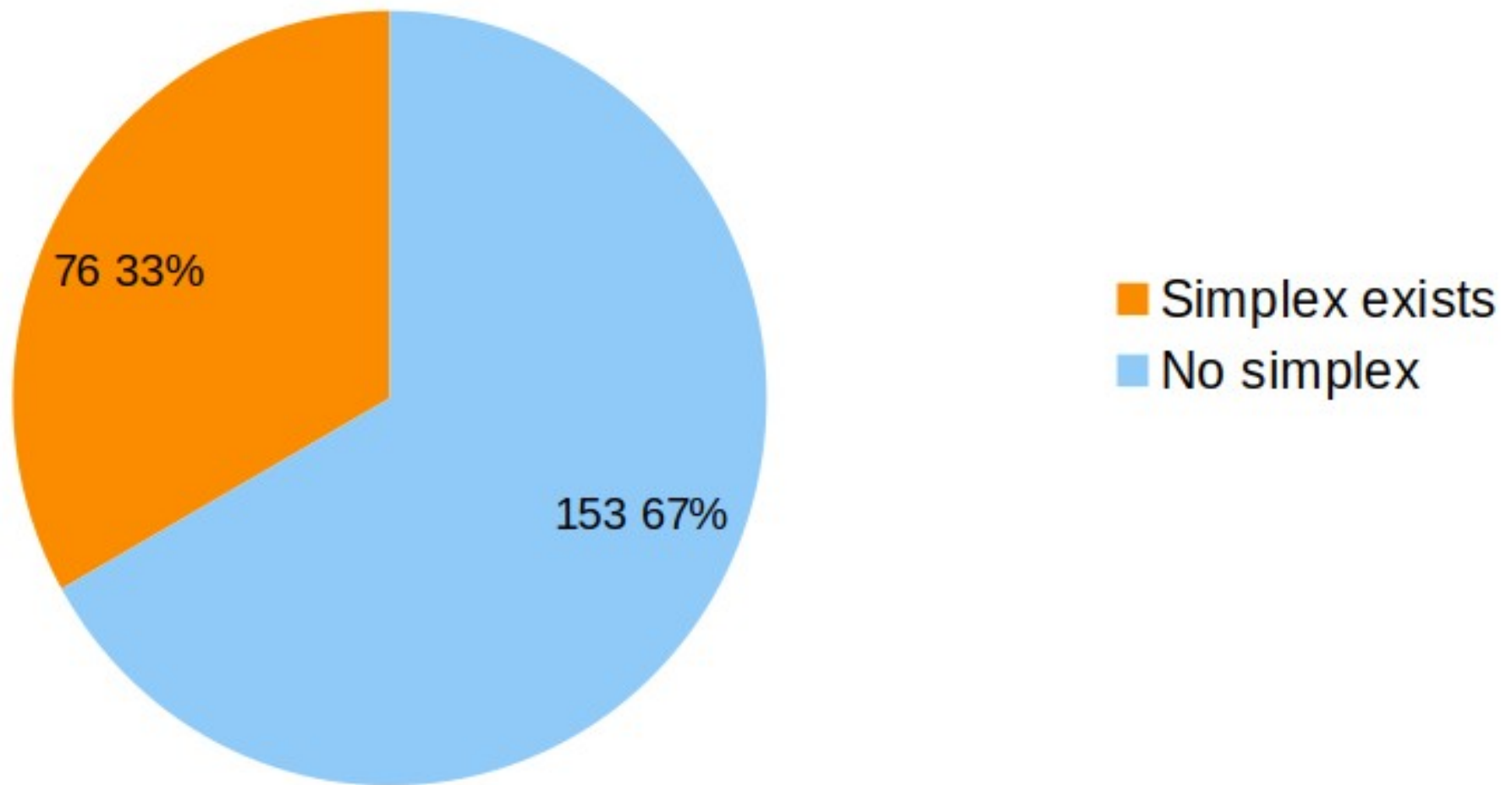


Meaning

How is reduplication used to form words in Ičičkíin?

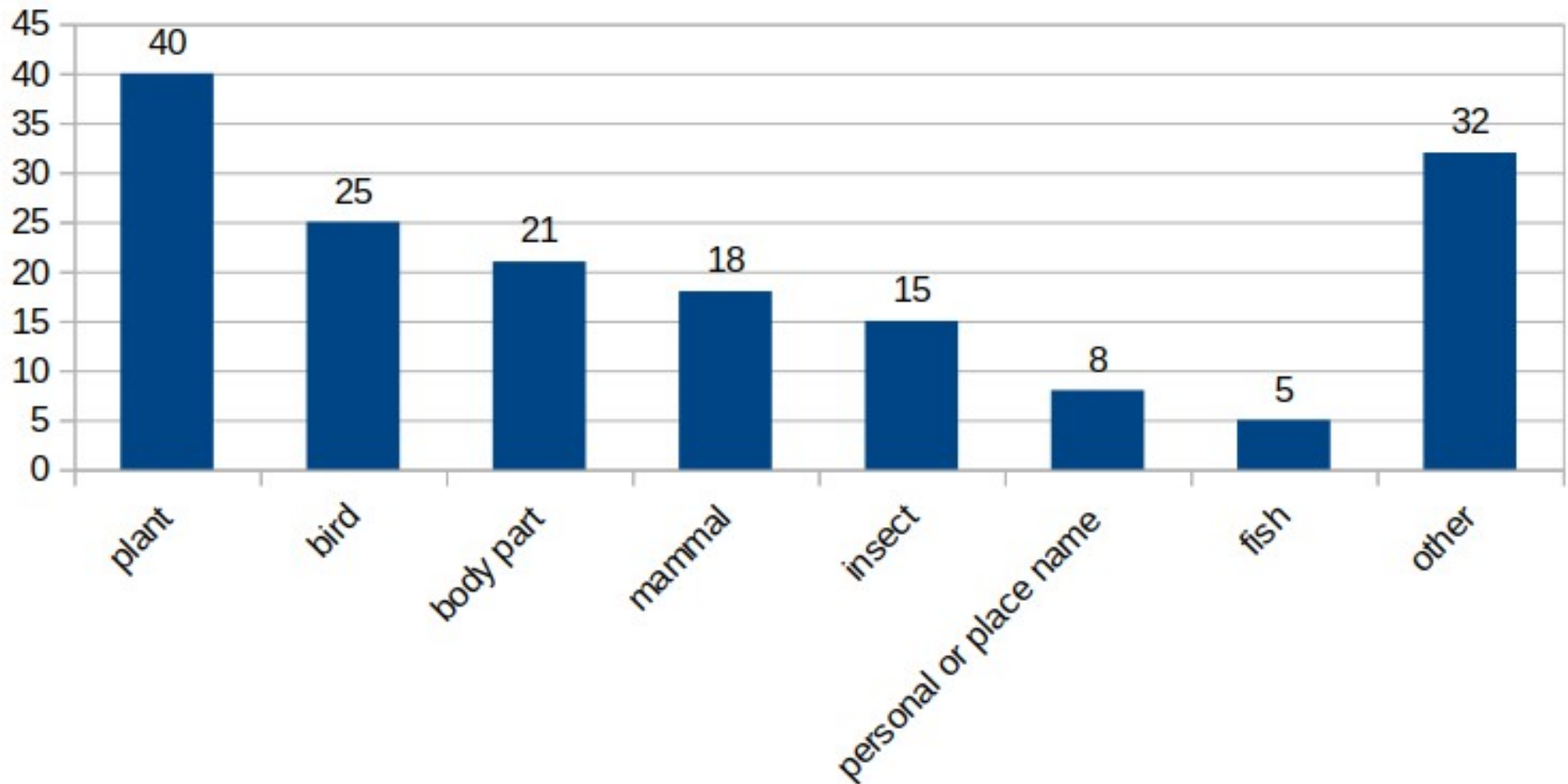
Meaning – reduplication

Is there a non-reduplicated form?



Meaning – reduplication of nouns

Noun subcategories (total 164)



Meaning – Distributive/plural

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	níitniit	a bunch of houses	níit	house
Verb	tqúxtquxn	have sores (of a horse)	tqúxn	to chafe
Adj/Adv	xílixíli	striped with two or more stripes	xíli	striped

Animate nouns can use a plural suffix, -ma.

Other ways to indicate distributive plural on a verb exist.

Meaning – Iterative – repeated action

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	px ^w ípx ^w i	worries	px ^w ín	to think
Verb	λúpλupn	to jump up and down	λúpν	to jump once
Adj/Adv	kikanakíkana	wobbly, staggering	-	-

Meaning – Diminutive – something small

With consonant symbolism sometimes

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	líitliit	a little shack, a bunch of little shacks	níit	house
Verb	-	-	-	-
Adj/Adv	paláypalay	forgetful	paláy	crazy, intoxicated

Meaning – Intensification - adj/adv

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	-	-	-	-
Verb	-	-	-	-
Adj/Adv	ćáa'caa	very close	ćáa	near

Meaning – Onomatopoeic – imitating a sound

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	ákak	goose	-	-
Verb	wakwákn	to bark (of dog)	-	-
Adj/Adv	ᵂᵂšᵂᵂíš	stretchy	-	-

Meaning – Other/unclear

	Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
Noun	šuxašúxa	wild mint	-	-
Verb	nána	to take along, to carry	-	-
Adj/Adv	qúyxqúyx	long and cylindrical	-	-

Meaning – Summary

Some meanings are common across part of speech:

	Noun	Verb	Adj/Adv
Distributive	✓	✓	✓
Iterative	✓	✓	✓
Onomatopoeia	✓	✓	✓
Diminutive	✓		✓
Intensification			✓

Some meanings are not clear, or may reflect more than one of the above at once

Phonology

The two halves are not always identical!

Phonology – stress first or second half?

Aoki (1963) describes many patterns of reduplication in Nez Perce, where the main stress may fall on the first or second stem, with or without vowel lengthening under stress.

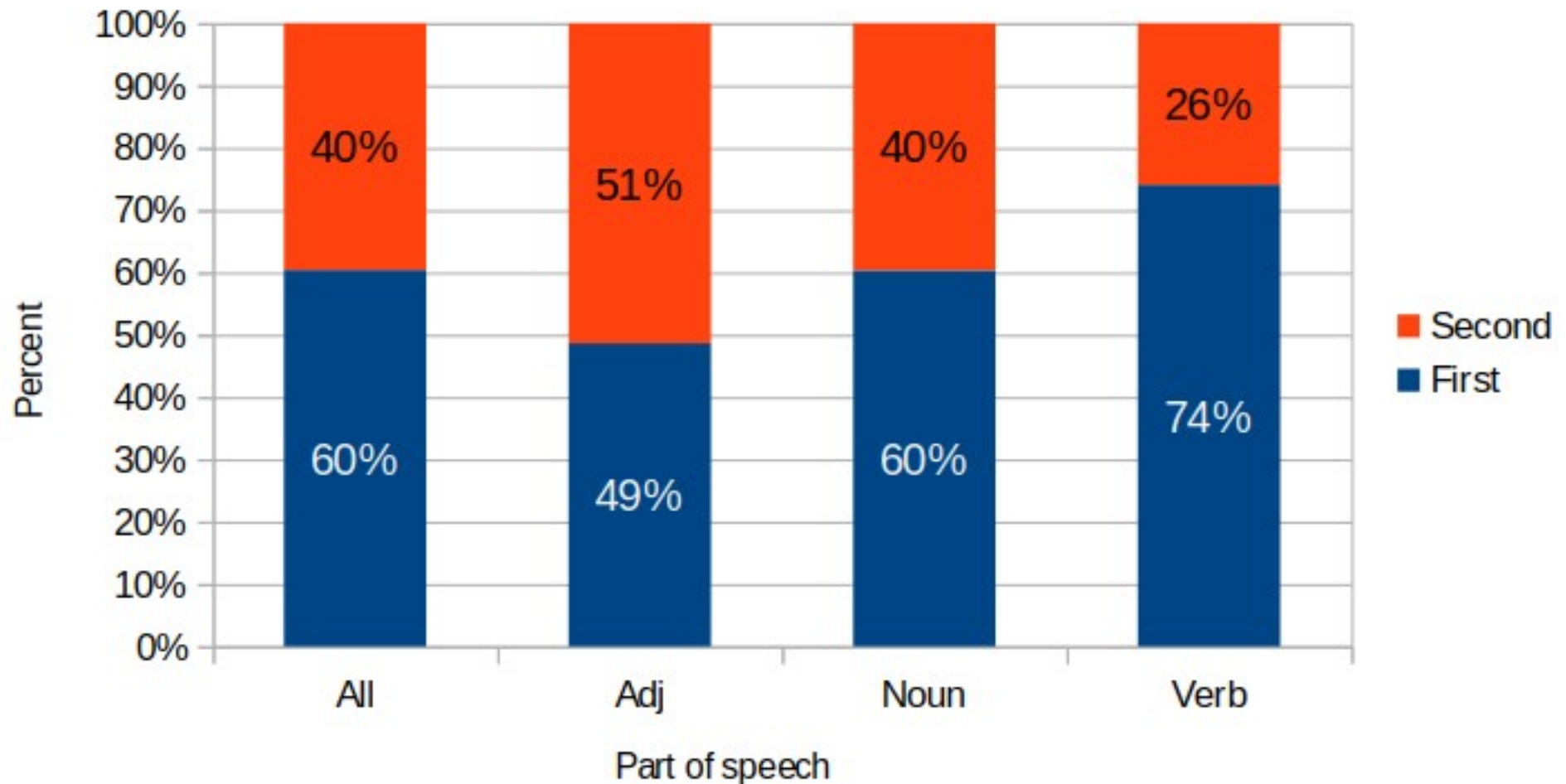
For distributive reduplication:

“In the noun the entire word or noun complex is duplicated, the accent falling within the first half.”

(Jacobs, 1931: 135)

Phonology – stress first or second half?

Stress location in reduplicated words



Phonology – moving stress

“The accent in diminutive duplication is given to the second syllable of the diminutive when the normal form is bisyllabic.”

(Jacobs, 1931:137)

May vary dialectally as well:

“The Sahaptin word for ‘dog’ is *ʔkusi* in the Northwest cluster and *ʔkusi* in the Columbia River and Northeast clusters...”

(Aoki, 1995:20)

Phonology – moving stress

Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
ɣɪlɪɣɪli	striped with two or more stripes	ɣɪli	striped
wiwlɪwiwlu	grouse whortleberry	wɪwnu	huckleberry
muklaymɪklay	housefly	muxláy	fly

Phonology – barred-i (ɨ)

Vowel inventory:

i – ii	ɨ	u – uu
	a – aa	

Hargus & Beavert (2002a,b) demonstrate /ɨ/ is predictable when unstressed (breaks up certain consonant sequences)

Stressed /ɨ/ occurs when an underlying stress is not associated with a vowel, and is deleted when that stress moves.

Phonology – barred-i (i)

Reduplicated word	Reduplicated meaning	Simplex form	Simplex meaning
ktúktu	quickly	kítu	fast
alíxalx	wing		
mílám̐la	ugly, dirty things	mílá	bad, ugly
x̐l̐íx̐li	striped with two or more stripes	x̐líli	striped
x̐lix̐líli	tipi canvas, blue striped	x̐líli	striped
cf. x̐lák ‘many, much’			

Phonology – deletion of identical C

Sequences of identical consonants are both released.
One is usually, but not always, deleted in full reduplication.

Sequences of identical consonants can occur across a morpheme boundary

miš -šúk ^{wa} hearing-know 'understand'	štúkštukš cf. štúkš 'trap' 'spider web'
awt -t -pamá taboo-NOM-place 'area to separate oneself when someone dies'	tiitíit (no simplex) 'killdeer'
	tá'atta'at 'redside shiner'

Aoki (1963:43) notes the same for Nez Perce.

Phonology – glottal stops

All V-initial words are pronounced ʔV (as in Nez Perce)

This optionally (or for some speakers) appears in the reduplicated form

Reduplicated word	Alternate pronunciation	Reduplicated meaning
ak'páyak'pay	ak'páyʔak'pay	kidney
áxšaxš	áxšʔaxš	dentalium
-	isxínʔisxin	side fins

A glottal stop obligatorily breaks up vowel hiatus

alaʔála	nettles
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Conclusion

Many things happening, but dictionary examples don't always provide enough data to see a pattern

Worth asking speakers about productive uses to test some theories of what's going on in the phonology

Future work could also cover other types of (partial) reduplication

Ík^wałanášamataš

Link to slides & database

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