

Sound Laws

Principle of minimal effort

Principle of minimal effort



Assimilation

imbibe

Principle of minimal effort



Assimilation

imbibe

ingest

Principle of minimal effort



Assimilation

imbibe

ingest

maðr

Principle of minimal effort



Assimilation

imbibe

ingest

maðr

< mann-**r**

Principle of minimal effort



Assimilation

imbibe

ingest

maðr

< mann-r

doema, doemði

skipta, skipti

brosa, brosti

eyða, eyddi

Syncope

Ultimate

hǫndu (*nom. sg.*) > hǫnd

*bǫrnu (*nom./acc. pl.*) > bǫrn

*hyggir (*2/3sg.*) > hyggr

→ Unstressed vowels in final syllables are widely dropped

Penultimate

adj.	<i>sg.</i>	<i>pl.</i>	noun	<i>sg.</i>	<i>pl.</i>
<i>nom.</i>	auð <u>i</u> gr	auðgir	<i>nom.</i>	him <u>i</u> nn	himnar
<i>acc.</i>	auðgan	auðga	<i>acc.</i>	him <u>i</u> n	himna
<i>gen.</i>	auð <u>i</u> gs	auð <u>i</u> gra	<i>gen.</i>	him <u>i</u> ns	himna
<i>dat.</i>	auðgum	auðgum	<i>dat.</i>	himni	himnum

→ Short, unstressed medial vowels are dropped where followed by CV

Front Mutation

ich fahre

du fährst

sie fährt

ich stoße

du stößt

sie stößt

ich laufe

du läufst

sie läuft

Front Mutation

ich fahre

du fährst

sie fährt

ich stoße

du stößt

sie stößt

ich laufe

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sie läuft

Gothic *faran*

ik fara

þu faris

is farip

Ultimate syncope made *i* disappear in many such positions.

fara VI “go”

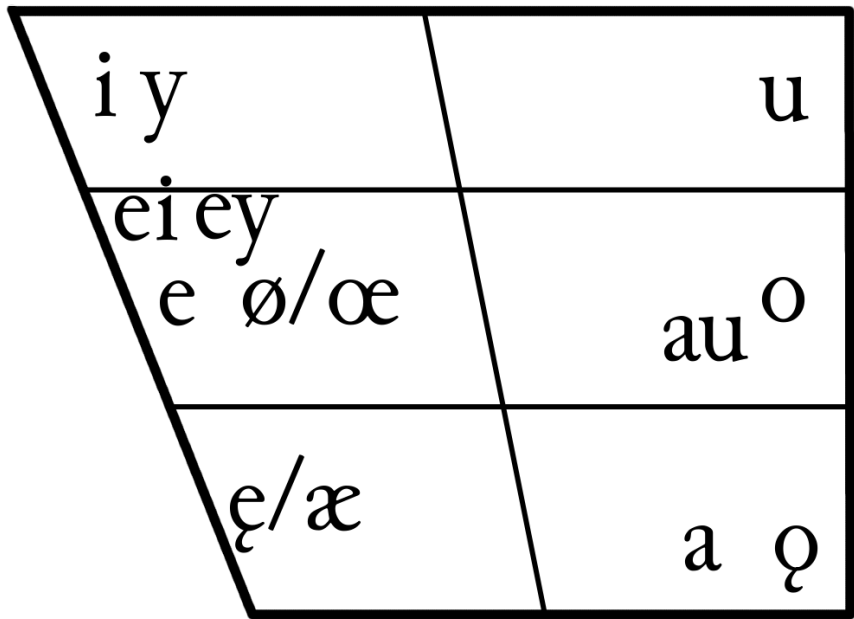
travel; die

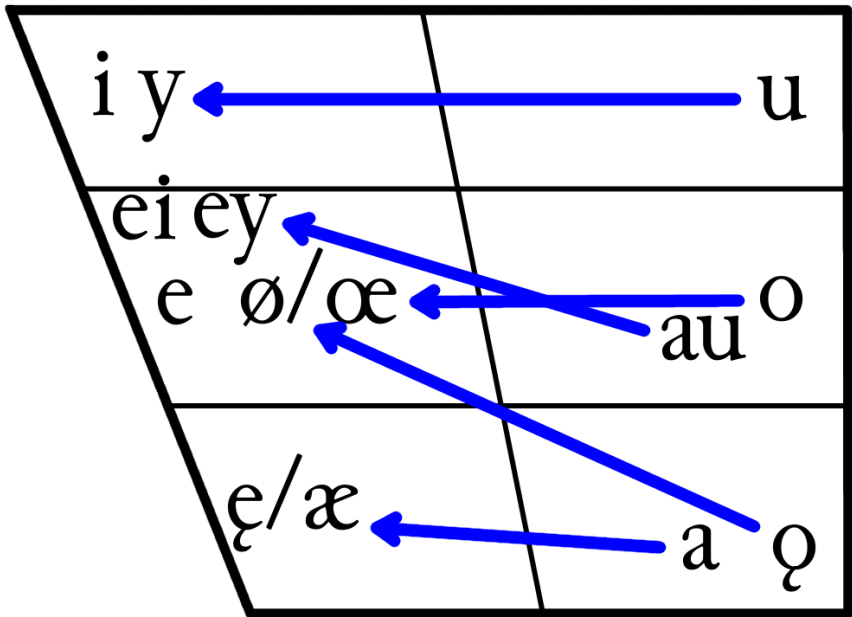
intransitive

active voice

<i>present indicative</i>				<i>present subjunctive</i>			
<i>1sg</i>	ek fer	<i>1pl</i>	vér fõrum	<i>1sg</i>	ek fara	<i>1pl</i>	vér farim
<i>2sg</i>	þú ferr	<i>2pl</i>	þér farið	<i>2sg</i>	þú farir	<i>2pl</i>	þér farið
<i>3sg</i>	hon ferr	<i>3pl</i>	þau fara	<i>3sg</i>	hon fari	<i>3pl</i>	þau fari
<i>preterite indicative</i>				<i>preterite subjunctive</i>			
<i>1sg</i>	ek fór	<i>1pl</i>	vér fórum	<i>1sg</i>	ek fœra	<i>1pl</i>	vér fœrim
<i>2sg</i>	þú fórt	<i>2pl</i>	þér fóruð	<i>2sg</i>	þú fœrir	<i>2pl</i>	þér fœrið
<i>3sg</i>	hon fór	<i>3pl</i>	þau fóru	<i>3sg</i>	hon fœri	<i>3pl</i>	þau fœri
<i>preterite infinitive</i>				fóru			
<i>past participle</i>	<i>f.</i>	farin	<i>m.</i>	farinn	<i>n.</i>	farit	
<i>imperative</i>	<i>2sg</i>	far	<i>1pl</i>	fõrum	<i>2pl</i>	farið	

- ▶ Strong verbs have front mutation in all singular present indicative forms
- ▶ All verbs except class 2 weak have front mutation in the preterite subjunctive





berja 1 (short stem) “strike, beat”

transgress
transitive (acc)

active voice							
<i>present indicative</i>			<i>present subjunctive</i>				
1sg	ek ber	1pl	vér berjum	1sg	ek berja	1pl	vér berim
2sg	þú berr	2pl	þér berið	2sg	þú berir	2pl	þér berið
3sg	hon berr	3pl	þau berja	3sg	hon beri	3pl	þau beri
<i>preterite indicative</i>			<i>preterite subjunctive</i>				
1sg	ek barða	1pl	vér bqrðum	1sg	ek berða	1pl	vér berðim
2sg	þú barðir	2pl	þér bqrðuð	2sg	þú berðir	2pl	þér berðið
3sg	hon barði	3pl	þau bqrðu	3sg	hon berði	3pl	þau berði
<i>preterite infinitive</i>			bqrðu				
<i>past participle</i>	f.	bqrð	m.	barðr	n.	barit	
<i>imperative</i>	2sg	ber	1pl	berjum	2pl	berið	

- ▶ This class had a thematic *i/j*, yielding mutated forms everywhere except in the preterite indicative and past participle

brenna 1 (long stem) “burn (down)”

heat; sear; purify in, process with, produce by fire

transitive (acc)

active voice

<i>present indicative</i>				<i>present subjunctive</i>			
<i>1sg</i>	ek brenni	<i>1pl</i>	vér brennum	<i>1sg</i>	ek brenna	<i>1pl</i>	vér brennim
<i>2sg</i>	þú brennir	<i>2pl</i>	þér brennið	<i>2sg</i>	þú brennir	<i>2pl</i>	þér brennið
<i>3sg</i>	hon brennir	<i>3pl</i>	þau brenna	<i>3sg</i>	hon brenni	<i>3pl</i>	þau brenni
<i>preterite indicative</i>				<i>preterite subjunctive</i>			
<i>1sg</i>	ek brennda	<i>1pl</i>	vér brenndum	<i>1sg</i>	ek brennda	<i>1pl</i>	vér brenndim
<i>2sg</i>	þú brenndir	<i>2pl</i>	þér brennduð	<i>2sg</i>	þú brenndir	<i>2pl</i>	þér brenndið
<i>3sg</i>	hon brenndi	<i>3pl</i>	þau brenndu	<i>3sg</i>	hon brenndi	<i>3pl</i>	þau brenndi
<i>preterite infinitive</i>				brenndu			
<i>past participle</i>	<i>f.</i>	brennd		<i>m.</i>	brenndr	<i>n.</i>	brennt
<i>imperative</i>	<i>2sg</i>	brenn		<i>1pl</i>	brennum	<i>2pl</i>	brennið

- ▶ With long stems, this class underwent front mutation throughout the paradigm.

trúa 3 “believe”

transitive

active voice

<i>present indicative</i>				<i>present subjunctive</i>			
1sg	ek trúi	1pl	vér trúum	1sg	ek trúa	1pl	vér trúim
2sg	þú trúir	2pl	þér trúið	2sg	þú trúir	2pl	þér trúið
3sg	hon trúir	3pl	þau trúa	3sg	hon trúi	3pl	þau trúi
<i>preterite indicative</i>				<i>preterite subjunctive</i>			
1sg	ek trúða	1pl	vér trúðum	1sg	ek trýða	1pl	vér trýðim
2sg	þú trúðir	2pl	þér trúðuð	2sg	þú trýðir	2pl	þér trýðið
3sg	hon trúði	3pl	þau trúðu	3sg	hon trýði	3pl	þau trýði
<i>preterite infinitive</i>				trúðu			
<i>past participle</i>	f.	trúuð	m.	trúaðr	n.	trúat	
<i>imperative</i>	2sg	trúi	1pl	trúum	2pl	trúið	

- ▶ This class had a thematic *i* that was *e* at the time front mutation was active; hence only the preterite subjunctive was affected (because of subjunctive *-i*).

Labial Mutation

*handu (*nom. sg.*) > *hǫndu > hǫnd

*barnu (*nom./acc. pl.*) > *bǫrnu > bǫrn

*vallur (*nom. sg.*) > *vǫllur > vǫllr

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A *u* is still visible in nearly all dative plural forms and in masculine/neuter dative singular adjectives.

<i>Nom. sg.</i>	langr harmr	<i>Nom. pl.</i>	langir harmar
<i>Acc. sg.</i>	langan harm	<i>Acc. pl.</i>	langa harma
<i>Gen. sg.</i>	langs harms	<i>Gen. pl.</i>	langra harma
<i>Dat. sg.</i>	lǫngum harmi	<i>Dat. pl.</i>	lǫngum hǫrmum