


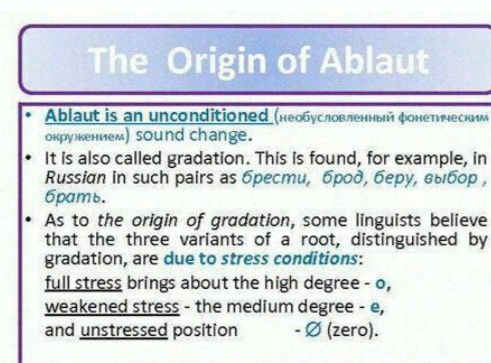
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Ablaut umlaut. Умлауты в немецком. Ablaut und umlaut.

Ablaut and Umlaut What they have in common, what distinguishes them. Elisabeth Rieder & Anita Schenner The aim of this paper is to discuss the main properties of New High German Ablaut and Umlaut in the light of concepts that were recently developed within the framework of Government Phonology. It will be shown that Ablaut and Umlaut, although both are instances of process morphology, can not be viewed as the same phenomenon. 1. Introduction New High German (henceforth NHG) Ablaut and Umlaut are both morphophonological processes. Both are realized on the surface as vowel alternations. Both have a grammatical function. Nevertheless, it is assumed that Ablaut and Umlaut are different grammatical tools. In this paper we will take a closer look at various synchronic properties of the two processes and investigate which characteristics they share and which not. The theoretical framework for the following analysis is Government Phonology (Harris & Lindsay 1995, Kaye, Lowenstamm & Vergnaud 1985, 1990) under the strict CV-skeleton hypothesis (Lowenstamm 1996). The paper is organized as follows: in section 2 we are going to give an overview of recent theoretical developments concerning Ablaut phenomena from a universal perspective and the implications for the theory of NHG Ablaut. In section 3 a synchronic analysis of NHG Umlaut is presented. For a thorough understanding of the mechanism at work also a short diachronic background is provided. Section 4 concludes the paper. It recapitulates the main characteristics of Ablaut and Umlaut and gives an account of their relevant differences and similarities.

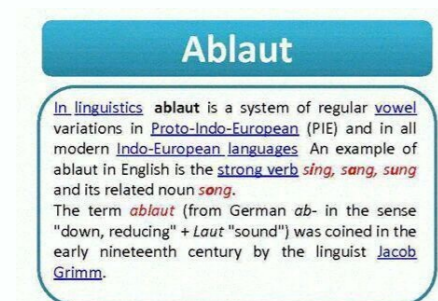
@inproceedings{Wiese2008FormAF, title={Form and function of verbal ablaut in contemporary standard German}, author={Bernd Wiese}, year={2008}, url={124079189}}The multiple gradations of German strong verbs are but manifestations of a rather uncomplicated system. There is a small number of ways to make up ablaut forms; these types of formation are identifiable in formal terms and, what is more, they have definite functions as morphological markers. Using classifications of stem forms according to quality, complexity and quantity of vowels, three types of operations involved in ablaut formation are identified. Ablaut always includes a change of quality. ... Ralf VogelLinguistics2019I explore the properties of a variant of OT morpho-syntax that is based on the standard OT mechanism of markedness/faithfulness interaction. For this variant to play out successfully, the idea of... It is one of the hallmarks of natural language that abstract morphosyntactic and semantic information is realized in an intricate way by phonological structure. This mapping of representations of... Pavel CahalLinguistics2019The term syncretism refers to a situation where two distinct morphosyntactic categories are expressed in the same way. For instance, in English, first and third person pronouns distinguish singular... Samuel A. AnderssonLinguistics2018This paper discusses cases where non-adjacent cells in morphological paradigms are syncretic, commonly called ABA patterns (Bobaljik 2012 et seqq.). Data from verbs in Germanic languages are... Samuel A. AnderssonLinguistics2018This paper discusses cases where non-adjacent cells in morphological paradigms are syncretic, commonly called ABA patterns (Bobaljik 2012 et seqq.). Data from verbs in Germanic languages are... Samuel A. AnderssonLinguistics2018This paper discusses cases where non-adjacent cells in morphological paradigms are syncretic, commonly called ABA patterns (Bobaljik 2012 et seqq.). Data from verbs in Germanic languages are... Johnathan David BobaljikLinguistics2006This paper aims to contribute to the debate on the status of inflectional paradigms in grammatical theory, with special reference to the theory of Optimal Paradigms (OP, McCarthy 2005), a particular... Stefanie RegelA. OptizG. MüllerA.



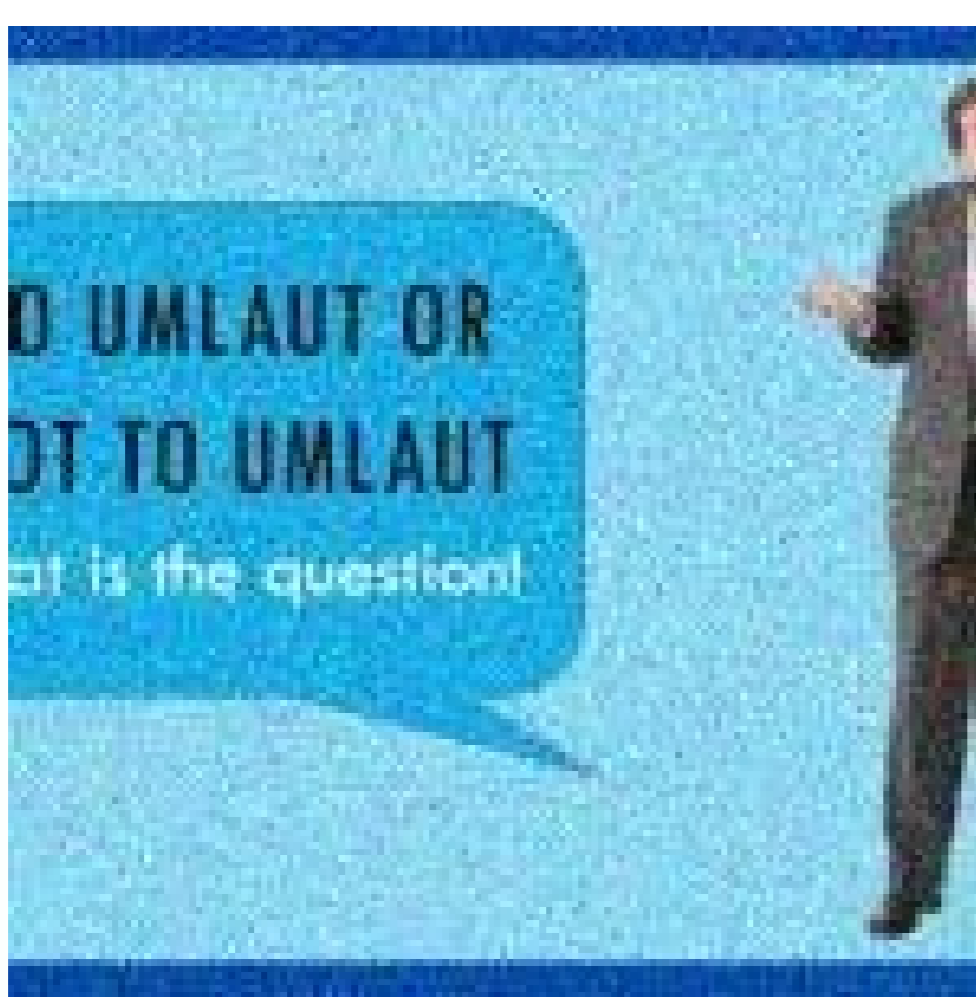
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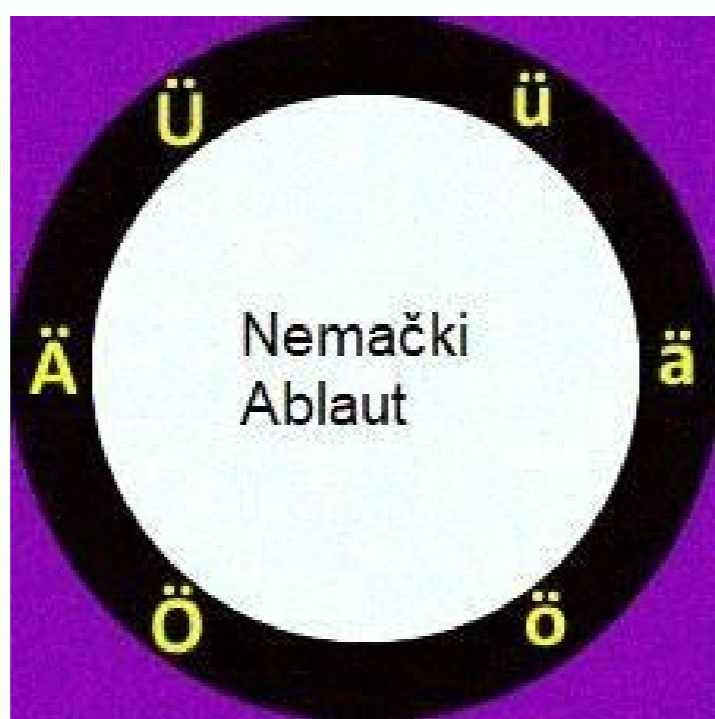
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Preamble 2. The scope of a linguistic theory 3. Evaluating morphological theories Part II. Models of Inflectional Morphology: 4. Item and arrangement morphology: introductory... Joan L. BybeeD. SlobinLinguistics1982Consistent error patterns in English past-tense forms are reported for three age groups: preschoolers, 8-10-year-olds, and adults. It is argued that, although irregular forms are rote-learned... The concept of paradigm as used in classical European grammar is explicated by defining a purely set-theoretical concept that crucially relies on the notion of classification. The new concept of... Part II contains a detailed account of partial idiolect grammars as applied axiomatic theories that are formulated in terms of a theory of language. These grammars serve as a test case for the... These two words cause a lot of confusion, which is mainly due to the fact that the difference between the two only becomes clear when you look at language history. An Ablaut is the systematic change of vowels to form the different tenses. It used to be very systematic in Indo-European and the only way to form the past tense, but in the Germanic languages, a new way of expressing this grammatical information emerged which led to the gradual degradation of this older set of rules. If you look at grammars of Middle High German for example, you will find seven Ablautreihen, but they already contain lots of exceptions. This is why sing-sang-sung are Ablauts.

Side note: The new rule is a "d/t-past" and one of the things that sets the Germanic languages apart from the other Indo-European languages. Almost all of those "regular verbs" like fill - filled - filled are newer Germanic inventions, except for the cases where a verb lost its "irregularities" and became a "d/t-past" verb. This is also why the related verbs in German are always also "d/t-past" verbs ("füllen - füllte - gefüllt), except when it used to be an irregular verb and assimilated to different degrees. Now for Umlaut. One meaning of the word are the two dots above a, o, u. But this meaning is secondary (i.e. came later). The primary meaning was the phenomenon that due to assimilation processes an a, o, u in the stem of words sound more like ä, ö, ü in certain cases. Nowadays it is not easy to see why it should be Macht but Mächte, although we also have Päderast and Päderasten where the schwa doesn't seem to induce an assimilation process. But looking at it from an etymological perspective will reveal that the plural of maht used to be mahti in Old High German. The i is a common plural marker in Old High German and also a very high vowel. So it is easier to say mahti, because the pronunciation places of e and i are closer to each other. The next step in language development was Nebensilbenabschwächung which means that all vowels that didn't have a stress became a schwa. That is why we there is no i any more at the end of Mächte. But the assimilation had already taken place and now also sort of carries the information "there used to be an i here, so it's plural", hence the ä is also written down. Since now the fact that there is an Umlaut means this is plural and is perceived as such (before the Nebensilbenabschwächung it was just a byproduct), it was then used as a morphological means to form the plural. For example Vater -> Väter never used to be vater -> vater or something like this. I'm not too sure about English, but I'll add this because this also came up in the comments to the original question. I suppose that an analogous process took place for foot. Probably in Old English, feet used to be foety or something like that which assimilated to feety and consequently lost the y at the end, so this would be an Umlaut, although it doesn't have "dots" like in German. I only used the plural as an example here, the other uses of Umlaut (e.g. to form the comparative form of an adjective) emerged in a similar way. Reference: This is a summary and explanation of the relevant entries in Lexikon der Sprachwissenschaft by Hadumod Bußmann. Language units large and small Marked forms of words - Inflection, Derivation, Declension, Conjugation - Diminutive, Augmentative Groups and categories and properties of words - Syntactic and lexical categories - Grammatical cases - Correlatives - Expletives - Adjuncts Words and meaning - Morphology - Semiotics Figures of speech, expressions, phraseology, etc. - Word similarity - Onomasiology - Ambiguity - Modality - Lexicology Segment function, interaction, reference - Clitics - Apposition - Parataxis, Hypotaxis - Attributive - Binding - Coordinations - Word and concept reference Sentence structure and style - Agreement - Ellipsis - Hedging Phonology - Articulation - Formants - Prosody - Intonation, stress, focus - Diphones - Intervocalic - Lenition - Glottal stop - Vowel diagrams - Elision - Ablaut and umlaut - Phonics Analyses, models, software - Minimal pairs - Concordances - Linguistics software - Some relatively basic text processing - Word embeddings - Semantic similarity Unsorted - Contextualism - Text summarization - Accent, Dialect, Language - Pidgin, Creole - Writing systems - Typography, orthography - Digraphs, ligatures, diphthongs - Onomastics Golston, Chris and Wiese, Richard 1996. 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