# Preprint of: Harvey, Andrew. Epenthetic vowels in Swahili loanwords. In The Journal of Linguistics and Language Education, pp 17-45, 2014, vol. 8 no. 2. University of Dar es Salaam. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo. 2527487 Epenthetic Vowels in Swahili Loanwords 

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#### Abstract

When adapting loans into Swahili, a series of vowels are inserted, resulting in forms that differ from those in the source languages (etymons). This work 1) identifies the nature of these inserted vowels, and 2) develops an explanation of the system behind the various phonetic realizations of these vowels. Vowels examined are (as the title suggests) epenthetic rather than excrescent. Typically, when Swahili loanwords are adapted via epenthesis, features cannot cross from one side of the stressed syllable (which in Swahili is the penult). Therefore, word-final epenthetic vowels must appropriate features from adjacent consonants. Consonants spreading coronal features will result in a coronal epenthetic vowel [i], consonants spreading labial features will result in a labial epenthetic vowel [ u ], and consonants spreading pharyngeal features will result in a pharyngeal vowel [a]. Dorsal consonants do not contribute a feature, and the feature [coronal] is inserted by default. In pre-stress environments, both vocalic and consonantal material is available for Feature-Spreading. Features of vowels spread more freely than features of consonants, so vowel-vowel feature spreading is more prevalent. Several idiosyncratic forms exist in which vocalic material that existed in the etymon seems to have survived in the realization of epenthetic vowels. A handful of suppletive forms exist which seem to break the constraint on crossing from one side of the stressed vowel to the other.


Keywords: epenthesis, vowels, Swahili, loanwords, feature spreading

## Introduction

When adapting loans into Swahili, a series of vowels are inserted, resulting in forms that differ from those in the source languages (etymons). This work will 1) identify the nature of these inserted vowels, and 2) will develop an explanation of the system behind the various phonetic realizations of these vowels. ${ }^{2}$

Following an explanation of the data collected, the first objective of this work will be to provide evidence determining the nature of the vowels concerned. Availing of

[^0]conclusions drawn by Hall (2006), it will become clear that the vowels examined are (as the title suggests) epenthetic rather than excrescent. Expanding upon these conclusions, observations will be made based on collected data, ascribing the trio of Swahili epenthetic vowels (namely [i], [u], and [a]) to three characteristic environments. Given that most languages usually avail of only one vowel for epenthesis, an examination of the phonetic implementation of this vowel trio will be undertaken. Appealing to the notions of Feature-Spreading and Domains, it will be shown that these multiple epenthetic vowel forms is a result of vowel-vowel Feature-Spreading phenomenon word-medially, and a combination of consonant-vowel Feature-Spreading as well as coronal Feature-Insertion word-finally. It will be argued that, since features cannot spread beyond the stresscarrying syllable (the penult), word-final epenthetic vowels must use features from consonants, whereas word-medial (pre-stress) epenthetic vowels may appropriate features from vocalic elements, as well as occasionally from consonants. Idiosyncratic forms will be examined, and comment will be made on the remaining suppletive forms.

## Epenthetic Vowels in Swahili Loanwords

Methodology and data
Swahili, a Bantu language spoken in central and eastern Africa by more than 50 million people, has been in contact with a wide variety of different languages for hundreds of years. In his examination of Swahili as it emerged as a national language, Whitely 1969 notes that "its coastal habitat has brought it into contact with Arab, Portuguese, Indian, British, and German traders and colonizers, so that its lexicon, like that of English, has been enriched by many hundreds of loan-words" (8). Current estimates place the amount of Arabic loanwords that have passed into Swahili at 30 per cent of the entire lexicon,
with a considerable wealth of English borrowings, and lesser contributions from languages such as Portuguese, Hindi-Urdu, and Persian (Baldi 2005).

For this paper, approximately 180 words that have passed into Swahili were collected from previous scholarship (Baldi 2005; Batibo 1996; Schadeberg 2014) and compared with their etymons ${ }^{3}$. Vowels that have been inserted (i.e. that occur in environments where no previous vocalic material had existed) were highlighted for further evaluation. Within the data, vowels have been inserted in a variety of environments (i.e. following a near exhaustive range of sounds, as well as word-initially, word-finally, and wordmedially). Below are a series of selected loanwords and their etymons ${ }^{4}$ :
(1) a) Ar. kaid [kaid] -> Sw. kaidi [kaidi] "disobedient"
b) Ar. iarab [iara:b] -> Sw. irabu [irabu] "vowel"
c) Pr. barf [barf] -> Sw. barafu [barafu] "ice"
d) Ar. lauh [lauh] -> Sw. laha [laha] "sheet of paper"
e) Ar. huzn [huzn] -> Sw. huzuni [huzuni] "grief"

Exrescence or epenthesis? An examination of inserted vowels.
In Hall's 2006 cross-linguistic analysis of vowel insertion, the major division was drawn between excrescent and epenthetic vowels. Excrescent (intrusive) vowels are labeled as 'phonologically invisible' in that they seem unable to play a role in the repair of illicit structures. Epenthetic vowels, on the other hand, are 'phonologically visible' and participate in the phonology by "repair[ing] structure[s] that [are] marked, in the sense of being cross-linguistically rare. The same structure[s] [are] also likely to be avoided by means of other processes within the same language" (391).

[^1]Swahili tolerates syllables consisting of (V) $u$ - of $\boldsymbol{u t u}$ 'character', (CV) $-k i$ of haki 'right', (N) $m$ - of $\boldsymbol{m} t u$ 'person', (NC) -nda of penda 'to love' and CGV pwa- of pwani 'coast's (Ashton 1947). The vowel may be either monomoraic (short) - consisting of one timing unit, or bimoraic (long) - consisting of two timing units. This makes Swahili a language in which syllabic quantity is contrastive (Batibo and Rottland 1994). Indeed, this longshort differentiation is crucial for such minimal pairs as kanga 'guinea-fowl' and kaanga 'to fry ${ }^{6}$.

With this said, approximately 15 per cent of data collected displayed instances of consonant clusters. The bulk of this data comes from research conducted by Batibo (1994) into consonant cluster tolerance. While Batibo claims that such clusters are entering Swahili, many of the words he examines come from fields such as schooling, bureaucracy, and mechanized technology ${ }^{7}$ - domains so recently introduced to the East African context that I would contend that most of these words simply have not been around long enough to have undergone complete nativization.

Accepting these ideas, Swahili can be posited as having a (C)V syllable structure, where V may hold the value of one timing unit ( $૫$ ) or two timing units (૫૫). The (native) words ndani [ndani] 'inside' and jogoo [d3ogo:] 'rooster' would be syllabified as follows ${ }^{8}$ :

[^2](2a)

b)


The main insight to draw from this model is that Swahili (with some very rare exceptions) requires open syllables with simple onsets (usually made up of one and only one consonant phoneme each). This information should be sufficient to determine whether the inserted vowels to be examined are excrescent or epenthetic. Consider the following:
(3 a) Eng. [blu ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ ] 'blue'


In English, the word [bluw ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ ] is a one syllable word, consisting of a complex onset [bl]. The nativization of the word from English into Swahili requires the superposition of this word upon the Swahili syllable structure.
b) Eng. [[bluw ${ }^{\mathrm{w}}$ 'blue' -> Sw. ?


[^3]As illustrated, since Swahili does not allow consonant clusters, one way to deal with this structural mismatch is to insert a vowel, thus effectively breaking up the illicit [bl]cluster. In the case of [bluw ${ }^{W}$, this is exactly what occurs, resulting in the Swahili [bulu:] ${ }^{9}$.
c) Eng.: [blu ${ }^{w}$ ] -> Sw.: [bulu:] buluu 'blue'


Of epenthetic vowels, Hall 2006 further states that "the same structure is also likely to be avoided by means of other processes within the same language." This is the case with Swahili consonant clusters, a significant amount of collected data exhibiting what Batibo 1996 refers to as 'extrasyllabic consonant truncation':

$$
\begin{align*}
& \text { Eng. [pIkt } \iint_{\mathrm{k}} \text { ] 'picture' }->\text { Sw. [pi_t } \mathrm{k} \text { a] picha 'picture, photograph' } \tag{4}
\end{align*}
$$

In this section, evidence was presented for viewing inserted vowels in Swahili loanwords as phonologically visible and thus epenthetic. We shall now examine these epenthetic vowels of Swahili loanwords in depth.

## Analysis of epenthetic vowels present in the data.

In the 178 tokens collected, approximately 186 instances of vowel epenthesis were observed. Of these, 1 instance occurred word-initially ${ }^{10}$, while $30 \%$ of epenthesis was word-medial, and just under $70 \%$ word-final. Examination will be centered on wordfinal and word-medial epenthetic forms.

[^4]
## Word-Final Epenthesis

Of these examples of word-final epenthesis, there are 84 cases of epenthetic [i], and 31 cases of epenthetic [u]. Epenthetic [a] accounts for 9 of these cases, and [e] and [o] appear in one and two cases respectively ${ }^{11}$. The main discussion will therefore be centered on the epenthetic vowels [i], [u], and [a].
(5 Examples of Word-Final Epenthesis
a) Eng. [stæmp] 'stamp'-> Sw. [stempu] stempu 'stamp'
b) Ar. [am:] 'uncle' -> Sw. [amu] amu 'paternal uncle'
c) Ar. [baqu:l] 'bowl' -> Sw. [bakuli] bakuli 'bowl'
d) Eng. [gaun] 'gown' $\quad->$ Sw. [gauni] gauni 'gown, dress'
e) Ar. [wasah] 'pus' -> Sw. [usaha] usaha 'pus'
f) Ar. [lauh] 'sheet of paper' $\quad->$ Sw. [laha] laha 'sheet of paper'

In the case of word-final epenthetic [u], it was observed that in all but two cases, the [u] was preceded by a labial consonant. Word-final epenthetic [i] displayed a slightly more disparate distribution, sometimes appearing after a vowel or a guttural, but appearing most reliably following a consonant that is coronal in nature. Word-final epenthetic [a] most reliably appeared following sounds that are pharyngeal. But given that [a] appeared in a (comparatively) smaller number of instances, a generalization should not be made without some degree of reservation.
(6 a) Word-final epenthetic [u] preceded by a labial consonant
i) Ar. [aawa:m] 'inception' -> Sw. [awamu] awamu 'inception'
ii) Eng. [nIb] 'nib' -> Sw.: [nibu] nibu 'nib'
b) Word-final epenthetic [i] preceded by a coronal consonant
i) Ar. [bud:] 'alternative' -> Sw.: [budi] budi 'alternative'

[^5]ii) Eng. [ko ${ }^{t}$ t] 'coat' -> Sw. [koti] koti 'coat'
c) Word-final epenthetic [a] preceded by a pharyngeal consonant.
i) Ar. [wasah] 'pus' -> Sw. [usaha] usaha 'pus'
ii) Ar. [lauh] 'sheet of paper' -> Sw. [laha] laha 'sheet of paper'

This pattern has been well-documented for Swahili (see Lodhi 2000 specifically as it pertains to loanwords from Indic, and Batibo 1996 as it applies more generally). Chacha Mwita 2009 states that "it is possible to predict what kind of vowel will be added in word-final position during epenthesis. Words [...] which end in a consonant acquire vowels whose type is determined by the nature of the final consonant; after labials [u] or [ o ] is added, and after coronals and dorsals [i] or [e] is added" (55). For the purposes of this paper, the Chacha Mwita generalization will be updated to appear below:
(7) Word-Final Epenthesis in Swahili
[coronal], [dorsal] = [i]
[labial] = [u]
[pharyngeal] $=[\mathrm{a}]$
There are, however, exceptions to this generalization:
(8 Exceptions to (7)
a) ([coronal] triggers [u])

Eng. [spejd] 'spade' -> Sw. [sepetu] sepetu 'spade, shovel'
b) ([labial] triggers [i])

Ar. [maلrib] 'the west' -> Sw. [magaribi] magaribi 'the west'
c) ([pharyngeal] triggers [i])

Ar. [al.subh] 'morning' ->Sw.[asubuhi] asubuhi 'morning'
Given that Swahili makes use of three different vowels according to the environment in which they occur, the central challenge thus lies in a phonological description. Why does this multiplicity of forms exist? Before examining the mechanics of this phenomenon, word-medial data will first be considered.

## Word-Medial Epenthesis

Of the data collected of word-medial epenthesis, the distribution of vowels seems more equal: 11 instances of [i], and 15 cases of [u]. [a] was epenthesized word-medially 22 times and [e] was epenthesized 5 times. [o] was epenthesized once.
(9 Examples of Word-Medial Epenthesis
a) Ar. [aql] 'intelligence' -> Sw. [akili] akili 'intelligence'
b) Pr. [harqi] 'type of grain' -> Sw. [haragwe] haragwe 'bean'
c) HU. [godro] 'mattress' -> Sw. [godoro] godoro 'mattress'
d) Ar. [kibri:t] 'match' $\quad->$ Sw. [kiberiti] kiberiti 'match'
e) Ar. [qidr] 'jug' -> Sw. [gudulia] gudulia 'jug'

In addition to word-medial epenthesis showing less of a marked distribution than wordfinal epenthesis, so too did individual epenthetic vowels show less of a trend with regard to the type of consonant they directly followed. However, if we expand our analysis to include both vowels that precede as well as vowels that follow the epenthetic form ${ }^{12}$, a clearer pattern emerges. That is, word-medially, epenthetic vowels are generally realized as copies of nearby vowels. As a counterpart to (7), we can describe word-medial epenthesis as follows:
(10) Word-Medial Epenthesis in Swahili
"When an epenthetic vowel is inserted word-medially, it is realized as a copy of a nearby vowel. Epenthetic [i] is variable in its occurrence, epenthetic [e] less so."
(10) should not, however, be taken as a "rule", but rather as an imperfect generalization. Exceptions are quite common:

[^6](11Exceptions to (10)
a) Ar. [markab] 'ship' $\quad->$ Sw. [merikebu] merikebu 'ship'
b) Eng. [film] 'film' $\quad \rightarrow$ Sw. [filamu] filamu 'film'
c) Ar. [sifr] 'zero' -> Sw. [sifuri] sifuri 'zero'

As different as (7) and (10) appear, it will be demonstrated that, by appealing to FeatureSpreading and Domains, the realization of epenthetic vowels is largely systematic and predictable.

The Phonetic Implementation of Swahili Epenthetic Vowels
Swahili possesses five vowels:
(12 Swahili five-vowel system


The most important detail here is that that the featureless [ə] does not exist in Swahili. If the choice of a featureless form is not available, vowels can only be realized (i.e. pronounced) with features. Epenthetic vowels must therefore acquire features.

It has already been established that this process is affected by adjacent sounds: wordfinally, these are consonant sounds that directly precede the epenthetic vowel; wordmedially, these are vowel sounds that may precede or follow the epenthetic vowel, usually with a consonant intervening.

Evidence for adjacency-triggered change is widespread. Clements 1985 cites work by Ladefoged that draws attention to three different English articulations for the sound $[\mathrm{t}]$, all seemingly affected by the following sound's place of articulation (236).
(13 Different articulations for English [t]
a) "eighth"
$-[\theta] \quad\left[\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j}} \mathrm{t} \theta\right]$
-[t] is interdental
b) "cheer"
$-[S] \quad\left[t^{j} \int \mathrm{i} \mu\right]$
$-[t]$ is palatalized
c) "tree"
$-[\lambda] \quad\left[\mathrm{t} \mathrm{ui}^{\mathrm{j}}\right]$

- $[t]$ is retroflex
[t] is composed of a set of different features: [+consonantal], [-sonorant], [coronal], [+anterior], [-distributed] . Each of these features as exists upon a structured schema, each structured schema being unique for each separate sound (Kenstowicz 1993). Clements' (1985) main argument is that during phonological processes of assimilation, feature bundles pass some of their features to nearby feature bundles, a process by which the nature of the recipient feature bundle is changed. Therefore, when the $[\mathrm{t}]$ of "eighth" is pronounced, place features from the nearby [ $\theta$ ] are acquired, resulting in a $[t]$ that is interdental, or [+distributed].
(14 Assimilation as feature-spreading (e.g. "eighth")



## Feature-Spreading and Swahili Word-Medial Epenthesis

When applied to vowel-vowel interactions, a similar mechanism applies. One wellknown example is Turkish vowel harmony, where alternations found in allomorphs of several different types of suffix are realized as a result of assimilation.
(15 Turkish Vowel Harmony: Height and Rounding (Nominative -> Accusative) ${ }^{13}$
a) $[\mathrm{ev}] \quad$-> [evi] "bare accusative morpheme" [i]
b) [oda] -> [odayI]
[i] -> [I] / V[low] ___
c) $[\mathrm{g} ø \mathrm{z}] \quad$-> $[\mathrm{g} ø \mathrm{zy}] \quad[\mathrm{i}]->[y] / V[r o u n d]$ $\qquad$
Under a feature-spreading model, this can be explained as the spread of one vocalic feature to the vowel present in the accusative morpheme.
(16 Turkish Vowel Harmony as Feature-Spreading (e.g. gøzy)


Applied to Swahili word-medial vowel epenthesis, this process of Feature-Spreading has very good illustrative value, accounting for $72 \%$ of the data.
$(17$ a) Pr. [harqi] 'type of grain' -> Sw. [haragwe] haragwe 'bean'
b) Ar. [huzn] 'grief' -> Sw. [huzuni] huzuni 'grief'
c) Eng. [spejd] 'spade’ -> Sw. [sepetu] sepetu 'spade, shovel'

Given that Swahili syllable structure disfavours consonant clusters (3), the phonology inserts a featureless mora $(Ч)$ between consonants to repair the illicit structure. Since the absence of a featureless vowel in the Swahili vocalic inventory (12) requires that vowels have features in order to be pronounced, features must be appropriated (in this case, from a nearby vowel) to the mora. The mora is then realized as a "copy of a nearby vowel" (as per (9)). The process can occur from left to right (as in (18)), or from right to left (as in 19)).

[^7]```
                            [a] [૫]
                                    (featureless)
    [feature set for [a]]
            [૫] -> [a]
Word-Medial Feature-Spreading (e.g. sepetu)
    Eng. [spejd] 'spade’ -> Sw. [sepetu] sepetu 'spade, shovel'
                    [sepetu]
            [บ]
            (featureless)
            -.....
            [feature set for [e]]
            [บ] -> [e]
```

Feature-Spreading and Swahili Word-Final Epenthesis
According to Clements' 1991 analysis of Kirundi (86), the Feature-Spreading process is also active between vowels and consonants. ${ }^{14}$
(20 [i]+[e]-Triggered Palatalization in Kirundi (Infinitive -> Perfective)
a) [raaba] 'to look at'-> [raavye] 'looked at' labial [b] -> labiodental (palatalized) [vy]
b) [teka] 'to rule' -> [tet ${ }^{\text {s }}$ e] 'ruled'
dorsal $[\mathrm{k}]$-> palatalized $\left[\mathrm{t}^{\mathrm{s}}\right.$ ]
That these vowel-consonant (or, in the case of the Swahili word-final data which concerns us in this section, consonant-vowel) interactions should occur signals that certain features of vowels and of consonants are shared. In fact, Clements' 1991 work posits that place features of consonants (C-features) and place features on vowels (V-

[^8]features) are identical, and simply present on different parts of the structured schema (p.78).
(21) Clements' Consonant-Vowel Synthesis ${ }^{15}$


The Swahili vowel inventory should be revised to appear with features as follows:
(22 Swahili Vowel Inventory (with Features)
[i] [coronal, +high] [u] [labial, +high]
[e] [coronal, -high] [o] [labial, -high]
[a] [pharyngeal, +low]
This claim is substantiated by research cited in Kenstowicz (1993) who notes that x-ray tracings from a number of languages (German, Canadian French, Russian, and Hungarian) indicate that "front vowels (when compared with the corresponding back vowels) are articulated with a raising of the front of the tongue toward the hard palate" (466), which seems to indicate a coronal quality to front vowels. This appears to be corroborated by the regular occurrence of word-final epenthetic [i] following coronal consonants in the Swahili data.
$(23$ a) Ar.: [bud:] 'alternative' -> Sw.: [budi] budi 'alternative'
b) Ar.: [ja:su:s] ‘spy’ -> Sw.: [d ${ }^{\text {j}}$ asusi] jasusi ‘spy’
c) Eng.: [ko"t] 'coat' -> Sw.: [koti] koti 'coat'

[^9](24 Word-Final Feature-Spreading of Coronality (e.g. budi) Ar.: [bud:] 'alternative' -> Sw.: [budi] budi 'alternative’ [budi]

[u] as a labially articulated vowel can be supported with historical data from Proto-Bantu, Clements (1991) noting that Proto-Bantu *tu is realized as [fu] in many daughter languages. This change can be understood as spread of the vowel's labial articulation to the preceding consonant, displacing the original coronal articulator. The reverse of this process (i.e. the spreading of a [labial] feature from a consonant to a word-final epenthetic vowel) appears in the majority of relevant environments in the Swahili data.
$(25)$ a) Ar. [aawa:m] -> Sw. [awamu] awamu 'inception'
b) Eng. [nIb] -> Sw. [nibu] nibu 'nib'
c) Eng. [stow ${ }^{\text {v }}$ ] -> Sw. [stovu] stovu 'stove'
(286 Word-Final Feature-Spreading of Labiality (e.g. nibu)
Eng. [nIb] -> Sw. [nibu] nibu 'nib'
[nibu]


Clements (1985) cites data from McCarthy on Syrian Arabic as evidence for a pharyngeal articulation for [a] (461). Word-final suffixal vowels are realized as [a] when following
pharyngeals such as $[\mathrm{h}]$ and [8]. In a majority of cases, word-final epenthetic vowels behave similarly.
a) Ar.: [wasah] 'pus' -> Sw.: [usaha] usaha 'pus'
b) Ar.: [lauh] 'sheet of paper' -> Sw.: [laha] laha 'sheet of paper'

> Word-Final Feature-Spreading of Pharyngeality (e.g. lauh) Ar.: [lauh] 'sheet of paper' -> Sw.: [laha] laha 'sheet of paper' [laha]


$$
[૫] \text {-> [a] }
$$

## Feature-Insertion

Given that the palatal consonants [t]] and [d3] pattern as coronals, the only place of articulation yet to be examined is that located between the palate and the uvula: the dorsal place. According to Clements (1991), a vocalic realization of the dorsal place of articulation should be [a]. In the data, however, this occurs only once, and [i] is the most common realization.
(29) a)Eng. [ ${ }^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{k}$ ] 'oak '-> Sw.: [muoki] muoki 'oak'
b) Eng. [bu wəæŋg] 'boomerang' ->Sw. [bumarengi] bumarengi 'boomerang'
c) Eng. [plæstik] 'plastic' -> Sw.: [plastiki] plastiki 'plastic'

In this case, no features are being appropriated from nearby sounds. Instead, it appears as if a default set of features is being assigned to the mora. This last-minute operation is known as Feature-Insertion.

| $[\mathrm{k}]$ |
| :--- | | $[\mathrm{Y}]$ |
| :---: |
| [C-Place] |
| (featureless) |

[dorsal]
-no feature spreading, [coronal] inserted by default
$[\mathrm{y}]->$ [i]

Having [coronal] as the default feature is a common pattern and can be observed in Clements' Syrian Arabic data, in which " $[\mathrm{e}]$ and [i] variants arise by default rules filling in the empty vowel" (461).

## Segregation of the Phenomena

The system of Swahili epenthesis in loanwords appears thus far as follows:
(31) Word-Medially [ч] -> $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{x}} / \ldots \ldots \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{x}}$
/ Vx___ via V-V Feature-Spreading
Word-Finally $[ч]->V_{X} / C_{x} \_$_ via C-V Feature-Spreading $->V_{\text {[coronal] }} / \mathrm{C}_{\text {[dorsal] }}$ via Feature-Insertion
*Where $\mathrm{X}=$ a feature
Having formulated the generalizations as above, we will now examine why word-medial vowel epenthesis patterns differently from word-final epenthesis.

Consider the following:
(32) Eng. [skJuw] 'screw' -> Sw. [sukurubu] sukurubu 'screw'

Given the current set of rules (31) for word-medial epenthesis, and assuming that some degree of adjacency applies when morae assimilate features, it appears that epenthetic vowels (namely the second $[\mathbf{u}]$, having already been valued by the underlying $[u]$ ) can spread their own features to other epenthetic vowels (i.e. the first [u]). If this premise is accepted, the following loans could be (theoretically) realized in two ways:
a) Pr.: [barf] 'ice'
-> Sw.:[bar Y fu]
given: [u] -> $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{X}} / \ldots \ldots \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{X}}=$ Sw.: [barufu] $/ V_{X} \ldots \quad=S w .:$ barafu] actual form = [barafu] barafu 'ice'
b) Ar.: [fahl]

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text {-> Sw.: [fah y li] } \\
& \begin{array}{rlr}
\text { given: }[y]->V_{X} / \ldots & V_{X} & =\text { Sw.: [fahili] } \\
& / V_{x} \quad & =\text { Sw.: [fahali] } \\
\text { actual form } & =[\text { fahali }] \text { fahali 'bull' }
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

c) Ar.: [sahm]

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text {-> Sw.: [seh y mu] } \\
& \text { given: [૫] -> } V_{X} / \ldots V_{X}=S w .: \text { sehumu] } \\
& / V_{X} \ldots \text { _ }=\text { Sw.: [sehemu] } \\
& \text { actual form }=[\text { sehemu }] \text { sehemu 'place' }
\end{aligned}
$$

In fact, nowhere in the data does a word-final vowel (either epenthetic or inherent in the structure) appear to have contributed to word-medial epenthesis. Therefore, not only do the two environments display separate feature-valuation systems, both environments appear segregated from each other into separate domains.

A possible solution to this "two-domain" system lies in Swahili stress patterns. Crosslinguistically, post-stress vowels are often of a low prominence (cf. Kaplan (to appear); Walker 2014). Since stress in Swahili always lands on the penultimate syllable (and is thus carried by the penultimate vowel), it can be posited that, after the stressed vowel, vocalic features cannot be spread. This is not a property solely of Swahili loanwords, but of native words as well - Swahili vowel harmony operations have no effect on the final vowel (Marten 1996).

| Pr. [barf] 'ice' -> Sw. [barafu] barafu 'ice' <br> -feature spreading from [u] blocked by Post-Stress Segregation (II) -features spread from [a] $-[บ] \quad->[\mathbf{a}]$ |
| :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

This is particularly attractive for two main reasons. First, if it is accepted that features cannot spread across the stressed penultimate syllable, then features from the ultimate vowel will be unavailable for spreading (as in 34). Secondly, if features preceding and including the penultimate vowel are unavailable for feature spreading, than this will explain why the ultimate (word-final) vowel must appropriate features from the adjacent consonant (the only other 'feature bundle' available to it) and not from the nearby vowel.

Post-Stress Segregation (e.g. sehemu)
Pr. [sahm] 'ice' -> Sw. [sehemu] sehemu 'place'

-feature spreading from [e] blocked by Post-Stress Segregation (I|)
-features spread from [m]
-[บ] -> [u]
In the introduction to Clements (1991), it is stated that "place features of vowels and glides[...] spread more freely than place features of consonants" (77). This serves as a good explanation as to why Feature-Spreading occurs mainly with vowels in the prestress environments (where vowels are present). Revisiting pre-stress (i.e. word-medial) data, it should be noted that a minority of data display vowels that result from $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{V}$ feature spreading.

Pre-Stress C-V Feature-Spreading
a) Ar. [alasr] 'afternoon' -> Sw.: [alasiri] alasiri 'afternoon'
b) Eng.: [bנשת] 'brush' -> Sw.: [bura Ji] burashi 'brush'
c) Ar.: [sifr] 'zero' -> Sw.: [sifuri] sifuri 'zero'

## Idiosyncratic Forms

Three forms in the data are idiosyncratic in that the epenthetic vowel present cannot be explained synchronically, but diachronically.
(37 a) Ar. [ibd.adam] 'human being' -> Sw. [binadamu] binadamu 'human being' b) Ar. [ibn.am] 'cousin' -> Sw. [binamu] binamu 'cousin'
c) Ar. [urs] 'wedding' -> Sw.: [arusi] arusi 'wedding'

In each of these cases, it can be posited that, in the underlying form, the characteristic vowel has remained from the etymon. Unrealized in its original position, the features are still present. Therefore, when epenthesis occurs, these are the features appropriated.
(38 Idiosyncratic Forms (e.g. binamu)
Ar. [ibn.am] 'cousin' -> Sw. [binamu] binamu 'cousin'

-Feature appropriation from residual etymon vowel.

## Suppletive Forms

Following this description of the data collected, there remain several forms for which there is no satisfactory explanation.
a) Ar. [ufr] -> Sw. [ufuru] "tax"
b) Ar. [salib] -> Sw. [msalaba] "cross"
c) Ar. [qahbat] -> Sw. [kahaba] "prostitute"

The cases in (39) could constitute set of features that have disregarded post-stress segregation, contributing to a relatively small list of suppletive forms.

## Conclusion

Swahili loanword adaptation makes use of a series of different, and sometimes conflicting strategies (cf. Batibo 1996 extrasyllabic consonant truncation, for example). Typically, when Swahili loanwords are adapted via epenthesis, features cannot cross from one side of the stressed syllable (which in Swahili is the penult). Therefore, wordfinal epenthetic vowels must appropriate features from adjacent consonants. Consonants spreading coronal features will result in a coronal epenthetic vowel [i], consonants spreading labial features will result in a labial epenthetic vowel [ $u$ ], and consonants spreading pharyngeal features will result in a pharyngeal vowel [a]. Dorsal consonants do not contribute a feature, and the feature [coronal] is inserted by default. In pre-stress environments, both vocalic and consonantal material is available for Feature-Spreading. Features of vowels spread more freely than features of consonants, so vowel-vowel feature spreading is more prevalent. Several idiosyncratic forms exist in which vocalic material that existed in the etymon seems to have survived in the realization of epenthetic vowels. A handful of suppletive forms exist which seem to break the constraint on crossing from one side of the stressed vowel to the other.

This study examines the spread of features in Swahili loans by appealing to FeatureSpreading and Domains, and provides a data-driven account that corroborates well with the existing body of theoretical literature. Inability of features to spread beyond the stressed vowel is emerging as a common constraint cross-linguistically, and may benefit from some further research in both other languages of the Bantu family, as well as other languages in general.

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| Appendix: Loanwords in Kiswahili |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Word (Origin) | Phon. Realiz. | Swahili | Phon. Realiz. | Meaning | Nota | Source |
| stamp (E) | [stæmp] | stempu | [st\&mpu] | "stamp" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| stove (E) | [ $\mathrm{sto}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{v}$ ] | stovu | [stovu] | "stove" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| iblis (Ar) | [ibliss] | iblisi | [iblisi] | "devil" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Baldi 2005 |
| ibriq (Ar) | [ibri:q] | birika | [birika] | "kettle" | * [k] realized as [q] in the etymon | Baldi 2005 |
| adhuhr (Ar) | [adhuhr] | adhuhuri | [aðuhuri] | "midday" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| adh (Ar) | [adh] | ahadi | [ahadi] | "promise" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| urs (Ar) | [urs] | harusi | [harusi] | "wedding" | * Case of "underlying feature-spreading" | Baldi 2005 |
| milk (Ar) | [milk] | miliki | [miliki] | "property" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| waqt (Ar) | [waqt] | wakati | [wakati] | "time" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| amm (Ar) | [am:] | amu | [amu] | "uncle" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| asquf (Ar) | [asquf] | askofu | [askofu] | "bishop" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Baldi 2005 |
| ibd Adamu (Ar) | [ibd.adamu] | binadamu | [binadamu] | "human being" | * Case of "underlying feature-spreading" | Baldi 2005 |
| aawam (Ar) | [aawa:m] | awamu | [awamu] | "inception" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| ibn amm (Ar) | [ibn.am:] | binamu | [binamu] | "cousin" | * Case of "underlying feature-spreading" | Baldi 2005 |
| iarab (Ar) | [iara:b] | irabu | [irabu] | "vowel" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| taab (Ar) | [taab] | taabu | [tabu] | "trouble" |  | Baldi 2005 |


| ahd (Ar) | [ahd] | ahadi | [ahadi] | "promise" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ammar (Ar) | [am:ar] | amiri | [amiri] | "begin" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| al subh (Ar) | [al.subh] | asubuhi | [asubuhi] | "morning" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| budd (Ar) | [bud:] | budi | [budi] | "alternative" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| iddaaa (Ar) | [id:aa:] | dai | [dai] | "demand" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| ghass (Ar) | [ghas:] | ghasia | [yasia] | "confusion" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| hadd (Ar) | [had:] | hadi | [hadi] | "until" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| saffa (Ar) | [saf:a:] | safi | [safi] | "clean" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| unwan (Ar) | [unwan] | anwani | [anwani] | "address" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| izz (Ar) | [iz:] | enzi | [enzi] | "power" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| aib (Ar) | [aib] | aibu | [aibu] | "shame" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| baia (Ar) | [baia] | bei | [bei] | "price" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| kaid (Ar) | [kaid] | kaidi | [kaidi] | "disobedient" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| naam (Ar) | [naam] | naam | [nam] | "certainly" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| zaid (Ar) | [za:id] | zaidi | [zaidi] | "more" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| waqf (Ar) | [waqf] | wakfu | [wakfu] | "endowment" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Baldi 2005 |
| wafaq ( Ar ) | [wa:faq] | afiki | [afiki] | "to agree with" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| aqd (Ar) | [aqd] | akidi | [akidi] | "to celebrate" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| aql (Ar) | [aql] | akili | [akili] | "intelligence" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| tarikh (Ar) | [ta:rikh] | tarehe | [tarehe] | "date" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| yaqut (Ar) | [ya:quit] | yakuti | [yakuti] | "ruby" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| akhar (Ar) | [akhar] | ahirisha | [ahirifa] | "postpone" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| baht (Ar) | [bakht] | bahati | [bahati] | "luck" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| ahl (Ar) | [ahl] | ahali | [ahali] | "family" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| alasr ( Ar ) | [alasr] | alasiri | [alasiri] | "afternoon" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| asl (Ar) | [asl] | asili | [asili] | "source" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| dajn (Ar) | [dain] | deni | [deni] | "debt" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| fihris (Ar) | [fihris] | faharasa | [faharasa] | "index" |  | Baldi 2005 |


| ghaasha (Ar) | [jaash] | jasho | [jafo] | "sweat" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| jasus (Ar) | [jassu:s] | jasusi | [d ${ }^{\text {jasusi] }}$ | "spy" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| maadin (Ar) | [maadin] | madini | [madini] | "mine" |  | Baldi 2005 |
| duud (Ar) | [du:d] | mdudu | [mdudu] | "insect" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| $\operatorname{raad}(\mathrm{Ar})$ | [raad] | radi | [radi] | "thunder" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| barf (Pr) | [barf] | barafu | [barafu] | "ice" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| family (E) | [fæmıli'] | familia | [familia] | "family" | * Possibly an incorrect etymon: origin is more likely to be Pt. "família" [familia] | Schadeberg 2014 |
| soup (E) | [su ${ }^{\text {w }} \mathrm{p}$ ] | supu | [supu] | "soup" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| harqi (Pr) | [harqi] | haragwe | [haragwe] | "bean" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| batata (Pt) | [batata] | mbatata | [mbatata] | "potato" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| caroço (Pt) | [karoço] | korosho | [korofo] | "nut" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| vinho (Pt) | [vino] | mvinyo | [mvinjo] | "wine" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| coat (E) | [ $\mathrm{kow}^{\mathrm{w}}$ ] | koti | [koti] | "coat" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| shirt (E) | [shət] | shati | [ ${ }^{\text {ati] }}$ | "shirt" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| socks (E) | [saks] | soksi | [soksi] | "socks" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Schadeberg 2014 |
| burkuh (Ar) | [burkuh] | barakoa | [barakoa] | "veil" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| bangli (HU) | [baygli] | bangiri | [baygiri] | "bracelet" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| lenço (Pt) | [lenço] | leso | [leso] | "rag" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| brush (E) | [biuf] | burashi | [burafi] | "brush" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| ski (E) | [ski'] | skii | [ski:] | "ski" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| qufl (Ar) | [qufl] | kufuli | [kufuli] | "padlock" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| saqf (Ar) | [saqf] | sakafu | [sakafu] | "floor" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| falg (Ar) | [fald3] | mfereji | [mfered ${ }^{\text {j }} \mathbf{i}$ ] | "ditch" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| spade (E) | [spejd] | sepetu | [sepetu] | "spade" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| oak (E) | [ ${ }^{\text {w }} \mathrm{k}$ ] | muoki | [muoki] | "oak" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| $\lim (\mathrm{Ar})$ | [liim] | limau | [limau] | "citrus" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |


| chenze (Ch) | [chenzə] | chenza | [chenza] | "citrus" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mikass (Ar) | [mikas] | mkasi | [mkasi] | "shears" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| gond (HU) | [gond] | gundi | [gundi] | "glue" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| gum (E) | [gum] | gamu | [gamu] | "glue" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| axle (E) | [æks,1] | ekseli | [ekseli] | "axle" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sledge (E) | [sled3] | sleji | [sled ${ }^{\mathbf{i}}$ ] | "sledge" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| markab (Ar) | [markab] | merikebu | [merikebu] | "ship" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sukkan (Ar) | [suk:a:n] | usukani | [usukani] | "rudder" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| langar (Pr) | [laygar] | nanga | [nayga] | "anchor" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| haraba (Ar) | [haraba] | haribu | [haribu] | "to destroy" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| dara (Ar) | [dara] | dhuru | [dhuru] | "to damage" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sarf (Ar) | [sarf] | sarafu | [sarafu] | "coin" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| usr (Ar) | [? r ] | ushuru | [ufuru] | "tax" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| wazn (Ar) | [waz, n ] | uzani | [uzani] | "to weigh" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| mashriq (Ar) | [mafriq] | mashariki | [mafariki] | "the east" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| magrib (Ar) | [magrib] | magharibi | [magharibi] | "the west" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| salib (Ar) | [salib] | msalaba | [msalaba] | "cross" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| mistara (Ar) | [mistara] | mstari | [mstari] | "line" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sifr (Ar) | [sifr] | sifuri | [sifuri] | "zero" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| blue (E) | [blu ${ }^{\text {w }}$ ] | buluu | [bulu:] | "blue" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| huzn (Ar) | [huzn] | huzuni | [huzuni] | "grief" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| haqiqa (Ar) | [haqi:qa] | hakika | [hakika] | "certain" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| qasd (Ar) | [qasd] | kusudi | [kusudi] | "intention" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| hutba (Ar) | [hutba] | hotuba | [hotuba] | "speech" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| qartas (Ar) | [qartas] | karatasi | [karatasi] | "paper" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| trombeta (Pt) | [trombeta] | tarumbeta | [tarumbeta] | "trumpet" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| malika (Ar) | [malika] | malkia | [malkia] | "queen" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| qahbat (Ar) | [qahbat] | kahaba | [kahaba] | "prostitute" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| manara | [ma:nara] | mnara | [mnara] | "tower" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |

Epenthetic Vowels in Swahili Loanwords

| mahkama (Ar) | [mahkama] | mahakama | [mahakama] | "court" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| hukm (Ar) | [hukm] | hukumu | [hukumu] | "judgement" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| jail (E) | [d3eil] | jela | [d ${ }^{\text {j }}$ ela] | "jail" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| padre (Pt) | [padre] | padri | [padri] | "padre" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| bicycle (E) | [baisik,1] | baisikeli | [baisikeli] | "bicycle" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sarkar | [sarkar] | serikali | [serikali] | "government" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| barwa (Ar) | [barwa] | barua | [barua] | "letter" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| musallan (Ar) | [musallan] | msala | [msala] | "toilet" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| godro (HU) | [godro] | godoro | [godoro] | "mattress" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| screw (E) | [sk.ıuw] | sukurubu | [sukurubu] | "screw" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| peppermint (E) | [p\&pəmınt] | peremende | [peremende] | "candy" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| film (E) | [film] | filamu | [filamu] | "film" | * Etymon most likely to include excrescence: [filəm], thus resulting in an [ $\mathrm{\partial}$ ]->[a] adaptation | Schadeberg 2014 |
| darba (Ar) | [darba] | dhoruba | [dhoruba] | "storm" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| kibrit (Ar) | [kibrist] | kiberiti | [kiberiti] | "match" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| fahl (Ar) | [fahl] | fahali | [fahali] | "bull" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| faras (Ar) | [faras] | farasi | [farasi] | "horse" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| bagl (Ar) | [bagıl] | baghala | [baghala] | "mule" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| gamal (Ar) | [ḋamal] | ngamia | [ngamia] | "camel" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| Tafiya (Ar) | [?afija] | afya | [afja] | "healthy" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| wasah (Ar) | [wasah] | usaha | [usaha] | "pus" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| baqul (Ar) | [baquil] | bakuli | [bakuli] | "dish" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sahn (Ar) | [sahn] | sahani | [sahani] | "plate" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| qidr (Ar) | [qidr] | gudulia | [gudulia] | "jug" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| djubun (Ar) | [dgubun] | jibini | [ ${ }^{\text {j}}{ }^{\text {j }}$ ibini] ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | "cheese" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| mihraz (Ar) | [mihraz] | maharazi | [maharazi] | "awl" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| gown (E) | [gaun] | gauni | [gauni] | "dress" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sirwal (Ar) | [sirwal] | suruali | [suruali] | "trousers" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |


| boomerang (E) | [bu ${ }^{\text {w }}$ məææn] | bumarengi | [bumarengi] | "boomerang" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| gardjun (Pr) | [gar3un] | gurudumu | [gurudumu] | "wheel" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| miskin (Ar) | [miskiin] | maskini | [maskini] | "poor" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| mushara (Ar) | [mufahara] | mshahara | [mfahara] | "wages" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| sahm (Ar) | [sahm] | sehemu | [sehemu] | "piece" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| al-fadjr (Ar) | [alfadgr] | alfajiri | [alfad ${ }^{\text {i }}$ iri] | "dawn" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| imam (Ar) | [ imam ] | imamu | [imamu] | "imam" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| danb (Ar) | [d ${ }^{\text {h }}$ anb] | dhambi | [dhambi] | "crime" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| tasbih (Ar) | [tasbih] | tasbihi | [tasbihi] | "glorification" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| lauh (Ar) | [lauh] | laha | [laha] | "sheet of paper" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| kalbud (Pr) | [kalbu:d] | kalibu | [kalibu] | "model, mould" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| beer (E) | [bix] | bia | [bija] | "beer" |  | Schadeberg 2014 |
| glass (E) | [glæs] | gilasi | [gilasi] | "glass" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| station (E) | [steif, n ] | stesheni | [stefeni] | "station" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| rough (E) | [ruf] | rafu | [rafu] | "rough" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| form (E) | [ $\mathrm{fo}^{\text {a }} \mathrm{m}$ ] | fomu | [fomu] | "form" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| nib (E) | [nıb] | nibu | [nibu] | "nib" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| lab (E) | [læb] | lebu | [lcbu] | "laboratory" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| pump (E) | [pump] | pampu | [pampu] | "pump" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| jam (E) | [jæm] | jemu | [jєmu] | "jam" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| tape (E) | [teıp] | tepu | [tepu] | "tape" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| note (E) | [ $\mathrm{no}^{\mathrm{w}} \mathrm{t}$ ] | noti | [noti] | "note" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| pass (E) | [pæs] | pasi | [pasi] | "passport" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| tank (E) | [tæŋk] | tanki | [tagki] | "tank" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| bank (E) | [bæŋk] | benki | [beyki] | "bank" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| speaker (E) | [spikə] | spika | [spika] | "speaker" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |


| hostel (E) | [hostel] | hosteli | [hosteli] | "hostel" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| spanner (E) | [spænə] | spana | [spana] | "spanner" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| master (E) | [mæstæ] | masta | [masta] | "master" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| school (E) | [skul] | skuli | [skuli] | "school" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| spare (E) | [sp $\left.\varepsilon^{1}\right]$ | spea | [spea] | "spare" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| sister (E) | [sistə] | sista | [sista] | "nun" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| desk (E) | [d $\varepsilon$ sk] | deski | [dعski] | "desk" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| plastic (E) | [plæstik] | plastiki | [plastiki] | "plastic" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| settler (E) | [sctlor] | setla | [sctla] | "settler" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| April (E) | [eip.l] | aprili | [eprili] | "April" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |

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| grade (E) | [greid] | gredi | [gredi] | "grade" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| flute (E) | [flut] | fluti | [fluti] | "flute" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| petrol (E) | [petıjl] | petroli | [petroli] | "petrol" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| clinic (E) | [klınık] | kliniki | [kliniki] | "clinic" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| brake (E) | [bıeik] | breki | [breki] | "brake" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| train (E) | [tuein] | treni | [treni] | "train" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| census (E) | [sensus] | sensa | [sensa] | "census" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| cent (E) | [s¢nt] | senti | [senti] | "cent" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| change (E) | [ 9 feind3] | chenji | [tend ${ }^{\mathbf{j}} \mathbf{i}$ ] | "change" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| puncture (E) | [punkt ${ }^{\text {r }}$ ] | pancha | [pantfa] | "puncture" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| bench (E) | [bent]] | benchi | [bentfi] | "bench" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |

Epenthetic Vowels in Swahili Loanwords

| baptize (E) | [bæptaiz] | batiza | [batiza] | "baptize" | * Possibly an incorrect etymon: origin is more likely to be Pt. "batizar" [batizar] | Batibo 1996 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| contract (E) | [kantıækt] | kondrati | [kondrati] | "contract" | * Word does not appear to be fully nativized. | Batibo 1996 |
| picture (E) | [pıktfor] | picha | [pitfa] | "picture" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| nylon (E) | [nailon] | nailoni | [nailoni] | "nylon" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| towel (E) | [taul] | tauli | [taulo] | "towel" |  | Batibo 1996 |
| psychology (E) | [saikoloḑi] | saikologia | [saikoloḑia] | "psychology" |  | Batibo 1996 |


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    ${ }^{2}$ Thanks are due to Carrie Dyck, Lutz Marten, and an anonymous reviewer for their suggestions and comments which led to several improvements to the work. A thanks to the kids of Kilimahewa for being my first exposure to Swahili and to its marvelous loans.

[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ The full list is included as an appendix.
    ${ }^{4}$ Throughout this paper, all inserted vowels are bolded. Names of languages are abbreviated in examples as follows: Arabic (Ar.), Chinese (C.), English (Eng.), HindiUrdu (HU), Persian (Pr.), Portuguese (Pt.), Swahili (Sw.).

[^2]:    ${ }^{5}$ Where: $\mathrm{V}=$ vowel, and $\mathrm{C}=$ consonant, $\mathrm{N}=$ nasal, and $\mathrm{G}=$ glide
    ${ }^{6}$ For more on contrastive vowel length is Swahili, see (H. Batibo 1990)
    ${ }^{7}$ See such loans as masta 'master', deski 'desk' and petrol 'petrol' for example.
    ${ }^{8}$ This paper's analysis of prenasalized consonants follows that of Mwita 2007. As such, the /nd/ of ndani will be analysed as one unit (analogous to [ t$]$ ]). However not all such combinations parse as such. For example, the /mb/ of mtoto mbaya 'a bad child' would

[^3]:    be analysed as two separate phonemes. The $/ \mathrm{mb} /$ of nyumba mbaya 'a bad house' would be analysed as one (ibid. 59).

[^4]:    ${ }^{9}$ Since the (bimoraic) sound $/ \mathbf{u}^{\mathrm{w}} /$ does not exist in Swahili, it is adapted to $/ \mathrm{u}: /$, thus preserving the bimoraic quality of the vowel.
    ${ }^{10}$ [usukani] usukani 'rudder' from Ar. [suk:a:n] 'rudder'

[^5]:    ${ }^{11}$ [tarehe] tarehe 'date' from Ar. [tarikh] 'date', [d3afo] jasho 'sweat' from Ar. [d3a: $]$ ] 'sweat', and [taulo] 'towel' from Eng. towel.

[^6]:    ${ }^{12}$ In both cases a consonant often intervenes.

[^7]:    ${ }^{13}$ Turkish data are from (Bubenik 1999).

[^8]:    ${ }^{14}$ A similar process is productive in Swahili when deriving agentive nouns from verbs:
    a) $\left[\mathrm{t} \int \mathrm{eka}\right]$ cheka 'to laugh' $->\left[\mathrm{mt} \int \mathrm{e} \int \mathrm{i}\right]$ mcheshi 'a funny person'
    b) [pika] pika 'to cook' -> [mpi i ] mpishi 'a cook'

[^9]:    ${ }^{15}$ For the purposes of this investigation, a greatly simplified representation of Clements' 1991 "Place" will be used, both higher and lower branching will be omitted.

