Sven Osterkamp & Gordian Schreiber: **A proposal for a formalized, expandable approach to the taxonomy of writing systems** (AWLL13 | 21–23 October 2021)

basic types	selection of subtypes		found in
	/CV/	**/CVC/**	
segmental* (unit: /CV/) [* = mappings on /C/ and /V/ only]	C[V]	C[V].C	Phoenician
	C.V̄ / C[V̆]	C.V̄.C / C[V̆].C	Arabic (unvocalized)
	C(v̆).V̄ / Cv̆	C(v̆).V̄.C / Cv̆.C	Arabic (vocalized)
	Cv	Cv.C*v	Thāna
	C.V	C.V.C	English
	C-V (Cv?)	C-V-C (Cv-C?)	Han’gŭl (Modern Korean)
	C[V] / C.V	C[V].C / C.V.C	’Phags-pa (Old Mandarin) [2]
	C[V] / Cv	C[V].C / Cv.C*v	Devanāgarī (Sanskrit) [2]
	C[V] / Cv	C[V]c / Cv-c	Lepcha [2]
mixed segmental / syllabic	CV_i / $C(V_i)$.V	$CV_i.C(V_i)$ / $C(V_i).V.C(V_i)$	’Phags-pa (Old Mandarin) [1]
	CV_i / $C(V_i)$v	$CV_i.C(V_i)$*v / $C(V_i)$v.$C(V_i)$*v	Devanāgarī (Sanskrit) [1]
	CV_i / $C(V_i)$v	CV_ic / $C(V_i)$v-c	Lepcha [1]
syllabic* (unit: /CVC/) [* = also involves mappings on /CV/, /VC/, /CVC/, etc.]	CV	—	Man’yōgana (Old Japanese)
	cv	—	(W)okototen (Class. Japanese)
	CV	CVC	Akkadian
	CV	$CV_x.(V_x)C$	Akkadian
	CV	CV.C	Hiragana (Modern Japanese)
	CV	CV.C(V_x)	Hiragana (Classical Japanese)
	CV	$CV_x.C(V_x)$	Classic Mayan
	CV	CV[C]	Hiragana (Classical Japanese)
	C.V	C.VC	Bopomofo
	C_iV CV_i $C(V_i)$-(C_i)V	C_iVC — $C(V_i)$-(C_i)VC	Pahawh Hmong (1: *k*-; 2: *-au*; 3: ≠ *k*- & ≠ *-au*)
morphemic (unit: morpheme)	F		Modern Japanese, English
	B		Modern Japanese
combinatorics (unit: word)	M		Mandarin Chinese
	M / M.P / P.M / …		Modern Japanese
	M / M-P / P-M / P-M-P / …		Classic Mayan

Overview of symbols used

free / bound graphs	X/x
boundaries …	
… between segmental spaces	. as in X.Y
… within a segmental space	- as in X-Y
(unless implied by change in case	Xy ≙ X-y)
phono- / morphograms	P/M, p/m
free / bound morphemes	F/B, f/b
consonants, vowels, …	C, V, CV, VC, CVC, …
long / short vowels	V̄/V̆, v̄/v̆
specific, inherent vowels	V_x, V_i (also C_i)
unwritten elements	[C], [V], [B], …
suppressed portions	$C(V_i)$, $(C_i)V$, …
graphs to suppress X explicitly	*v, *c

Notes

Grayed out text indicates redundant or predictable information. Renderings of /CV/ in segmental systems typically allow us to predict their treatment of /CVC/ (the only systematic exception being the occurrence of <*v>, which is not predictable). Similarly, renderings of /CVC/ in syllabic systems allow us to predict their treatment of /CV/.

For so-called *abugidas* (here: ’Phags-pa, Devanāgarī, Lepcha) two different interpretations are given: [1] = as mixed systems: partly segmental and partly syllabic; [2] = as purely segmental systems.

Subsystems that are in complementary distribution (depending on vowel quantity or quality in Arabic and the above-mentioned *abugidas* respectively) are given together, but separated by a slash.