CHAPTER IV

DECLENSION
The present chapter mainly deals with the characteristics of declension of nouns, pronouns and numerals.

Genders in the Atharva-Veda

The nominal forms of the AV. are found in three genders, namely, masculine, feminine and neuter. Classical Sanskrit also follows in general the same law of distribution regarding the gender. But the personal pronouns show no sign of gender distinction. The inflexions of Asmād (asmāt AV. III. 7.7) and Yuṣmad (tāva AV. I. 10.2) are found in the AV. on the same pattern in all the genders. The pronouns Tad (AV. I. 16.2), Etad (AV. III. 11.1) are the most irregular and peculiar of all. The numerals 1st to 4th are most distinct in all the genders, but the remaining numerals, declinable in the plural only, are the same in all the genders.
Numbers in the Atharva-Veda

Atharvanic language has three numbers in all, namely singular, dual and plural. In the language of the AV. the word āpah (AV. I. 33. 4) is declined in plural only. And the word dvā (AV. IX. 14. 20) is dual only. In copulative compound dual is used, where two objects are indicated by two individuals, e.g.,

mitrāvaruṇa (AV. IV. 29. 3),
dyāvāpprthivī (AV. XVIII. 1. 27).

To signify the combination (samāhāra) it needs only to be remarked that the singular is used, e.g.,

keśaṁśaṅrū (AV. VIII. 2. 17).

Case-endings in the Atharva-Veda

The AV. has seven cases in all, viz., Nominative, Accusative, Instrumental, Dative, Ablative, Genitive, Locative. Vocative is not considered as a separate case, because it has no separate termination of its own. It is regarded as a modification of the nominative. Each of these seven cases has three numbers (mentioned above) and each belongs to genders (mentioned above). In this way these seven cases become twenty one in all. One
interpretation of the word trisaptah (AV. I. 1.1) indicates these twenty one cases.

A renowned Grammarian Achārya Patañjali also observes in his Paspaśā-ānik, the existence of seven cases, when he explains RV. hymn, Saptā hāstāsah (RV. IV. 58.3). But according to Macdonell¹, Whitney², Kale³ and Monier Williams⁴, the vocative is considered a different case. So there are eight cases in all. In the singular, it sometimes coincides with the original crude form, sometimes with the nominative and sometimes it differs from both.

The normal case-endings added to the stem in the AV. are the following:

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Bases Ending in Vowels

Tendency of Changing Consonantal Stems into Vowel Stems

Historically we can state that some consonantal stems have changed into vowel stems. The language of the RV. contains some examples where stems end in consonants in the RV. are found to end in vowels in the AV. But in the later Vedic (AV.) language their stems are changed into vowel stems. It appears for some time both the stems were being used in the language side by side. Gradually the stems ending in vowels became more popular and those ending in consonants went out of use due to a period of transition in the history of the language. To illustrate this point we may cite the example of the word Dharma.

In the language of the RV. we find the neu. word Dharma (RV. V. 15.2; IX. 7.1; 110.4; X. 170.2) and mas. word Dharman (RV. X. 20.2), while in the language of the AV. the word Dharman, stem ending in a consonant does not occur even once. In the AV. the word Dharma (AV. XI. 9.17; XII. 6.1) stem ending in a vowel is available. In Classical Sanskrit the word Dharman totally went out of use. There Dharman was considered to be the supplement of the word Dharma. So after seeing the loss of the word Dharman, categorically we can state that the word Dharman lost its original form in the later Vedic and Post Vedic
We find a large number of words of this category in the AV., e.g.,

*dīr* (RV. I. 33.13) = *pīra* (AV. I. 27.4),
*dvār* (RV. VII. 17.2) = *dvāra* (AV. V. 12.5),
*gir* (RV. I. 3.2) = *gīra* (AV. II. 5.4),
*āp* (RV. IV. 94.6) = *spā* (AV. I. 5.4),
*hṛd* (RV. I. 168.3) = *hrdā* (AV. III. 25.6), etc.

**Nouns Ending in a in the Atharva-Veda**

Nouns ending in a form by far the most numerous class in the AV. and always admit of two genders viz., mas., and neu. The neuter substitutes in the three numbers of the nom. and acc. separately m, i, i, the letter with n prefixed as ni, in place of the terminations of the mas., e.g.,

*Dhanam* (AV. IV. 31.1),
*putrē* (AV. I. 31.4),
*bhūvanāni* (AV. IV. 26.5).

In all the other cases it adopts the terminations of the mas.
In the AV. nouns ending in a substitute in the base, ą for the final before y substituted for e in the dat. sing. before the dual termination bhyām and before the augment ṇ, in the gen. case plu. and in the nom. and acc. plu. neut., e.g.,

devāya (AV. V. 11.11),
puruṣānām (AV. VIII. 7.15),
dhāmāni (AV. II. 14.6).

They substitute ą for their final a before os in the dual and bhyas and su in the plu., e.g.,

dévayō (AV. IV. 25.7),
puruṣebhyāh (AV. I. 31.4),
puruṣesu (AV. IV. 18.5)

They insert ń before the sing of the nom. and acc. plu. neut. and the gen. case plu., e.g.,

rupanī (AV. V. 25.5),
devānām (AV. XVII. 1.2).

Nominative, Accusative, Dual and Masculine

In the language of the AV. there are some irregular endings which are substituted for the various case endings.
Thus ā is substituted in place of au in nom. and acc. dual mas.⁶, e.g.,

dēva (AV. VI. 3.3) for dēvau,
ubhā (AV. V. 3.9; 25.3) for ubhau.

The use of this category in the RV. is seven times more than in the AV.
In the AV. au is more frequent than the ā.

Nominative, Accusative, Plural and Masculine

a stem ending in as of the nom. and acc. plu. mas. gets the augment asas at the end⁷, e.g.,

dēvāsah (AV. VII. 29.1) for dēvāh.

The AV. has twenty four times more use of ending as in the comparison with the ending asas. But the RV. has only two-times more use of as than asas.

Nominative, Accusative, Plural and Neuter

In the language of the AV. augment ni of nom. and acc. plu. neu. is dropped⁸, e.g.,

bhūvanā (AV. II. 1.3) for bhūvanāni,
bhesajā (AV. XI. 6.14) for bhesajāni,
dhana (AV. V. 2.4) for dhanāni.
In the AV, inflections ending in āni are one and a half-times more numerous than the inflections ending in ā. But in the RV, it is quite different, the stems ending in ā are one and half-times more numerous than the stems ending in āni. It is very much strange that in Classical Sanskrit stems ending in ā are never found.

**Instrumental Plural**

In the Ins. plu. after a nominal stem, ais is substituted for the case ending bhis, e.g.,

devaḥ (AV. XIV. 3.9) for ṍ devebhīh.

Bases ending in ais are five-times more than the bases ending in bhis in the AV. But in the RV, bases ending in ais are not much more than the bases ending in bhis. And in the Post-Vedic language stems ending in bhis are not found.

**Vocative Singular**

In voc. sing. nom. s is elided in the language of the AV, e.g.,

deva (AV. VI. 3.3; XVIII. 3.42).
A Changed into a

Generally it should be noted here that the radical stem a of the RV. is made short in the AV, e.g.,

namadhāḥ (RV. X. 82.3) = namadhāḥ (AV. II. 1.3),
carsanipraha (RV. I. 117.1) = carsanipraha (AV. IV. 24.3),
somapah (RV. I. 54.8) = somapah (AV. I. 83; II. 12.3), etc.

Nouns Ending in a in the Atharva-Veda

In forming the inflexions of nouns ending in a, such changes as occur in the AV are of two kinds:

(i) Those Ending in a

Nom. affix s is dropped of nom. sing. in forming fem. noun, e.g.,
dēvata (AV. X. 8.25).

In nom. and acc. i is substituted for the dual endings au, e.g.,
dēvate (AV. XII. 3.12).

a changes into e before the a of the ins. case sing. and the os of the gen. and loc. dual and in the voc. case sing., e.g.,
manīṣayā (AV. XVIII. 4.58),
jangayoh (AV. XIX. 60.2),
gârge (AV. X. 2.2), etc.

va is inserted before the dat., ab., gen. and loc., cases of the sing. and n is inserted before ām in the gen. plu. e.g.,
dēvātāyai (AV. XV. 13.13),
dēvātāyam (AV. XV. 13.14),
kānyāyam (AV. XII. 1.25),
kānyānām (AV. II. 20.3).

(ii) Roots Ending in ā

In the feminine ending in ā, there are nouns derived immediately from verbs ending in ā, thus pā, dhā, e.g.,
soma pā (AV. V. 25.9),
vayodhā (AV. V. 11.11),
sumedhā (AV. V. 11.11), etc.

In these the final ā is essential, not an accidental letter. Such nouns are formed in mas. and fem. only. The inflection of the mas. and fem. noun is same. But in the neu. the final long vowel is always shortened. This type of bases are common in the RV. But
they become less common in the AV, in Classical Sanskrit they are hardly found.

Nouns Ending in i and u in the Atharva-Veda

Nouns ending in i and u vowels may be conveniently classed together, as they are analogously inflected.

In the mas. and fem. the changes of the base are the substitution of the long vowel for the final in the dual nom. and acc. and in the acc. and gen. plu. 18, e.g.,

- pātī (AV. VI. 3.3),
- bāhi (AV. IV. 2.5),
- bāhum (AV. III. 19.2),
- dhenūnām (AV. IV. 27.3).

The guna letter e or o is substituted for the final in nom. plu. dat. sing., ab. sing., gen. sing., and in voc. sing. 19, e.g.,

- agnāyāh (AV. III. 21.1),
- agnāve (AV. XII. 3.55),
- agnē (AV. III. 1.5),
- agne (AV. II. 6.2),
- dhenāvah (AV. II. 5.6),
Mtroh (AV. III. 6.6),
vāvāve (AV. IV. 39.2),
vavo (AV. II. 20.1-5), etc.

The final vowel e or u is converted into a, before the termination of the loc. case sing., e.g.,
agnau (AV. V. 31.9),
bāhau (AV. II. 27.3),
bhūmau (AV. XVIII. 1.39).

na is inserted before the termination of the ins. case sing. and the gen. plu., e.g.,
pātinā (AV. XVI. 6.6),
mādunā (AV. I. 4.1).

Thus we can conclude that the dual termination au is rejected, m is substituted for am, and ni for the as of sas, the vowel of as in the ab. and gen. is dropped and au substituted for ni.

Generally before as guṇa, takes place, for the final short vowel. But this rule has optional application in the AV., e.g.,
pasvān (AV. VII. 14.3),
pasun (AV. III. 28.4).
Words sakhi and pati have some peculiarities in the language of the AV.

Sakhi substitutes ā in the endings of the strong cases and inserts y before their vowel terminations\(^2\), e.g.,

sākhā (AV. XVIII. 1.2),
sākhyāyah (AV. VII. 60.4),
sākhāyam (AV. VIII. 3.20), etc.

In the other cases of the sing. and in the gen. and loc. dual, the final i becomes y before a vowel.

In the ab. and gen. sing. us is substituted in place of āsi and ās\(^2\), e.g.,

sākhyah (AV. V. 13.5).

The AV. has about half a dozen examples of sakhi, when it comes as the final member of compounds, then it is declined similarly.

Pati is declined like sakhi in the ins. dat., ab., gen., and loc., sing. In the rest like agni (mentioned above), e.g.,

pātinā (AV. XVI. 6.6),
pātau (AV. III. 18.3).
It should be noted here that the word pati, when it comes at the end of composition then it should be formed as nominal gheti, e.g.,

prajāpateḥ (AV. III. 10.13),
vrhaspataye (AV. II. 35.4),
napate (AV. V. 18.15),
satpathiḥ (AV. VII. 63.1), etc.

Nouns Ending in ı and ū in the Atharva-Veda

Stems ending in ı and ū are generally considered fem. There are few mas. Some common words as final members of the composition are adjectives used both in the fem. and mas.

Bases ending in ı and ū are not once met as neu. in the language of the AV.

The chief peculiarity affecting the inflective base in nouns terminating in ı and ū regards the substitution in some cases of the syllables iy and uv for the finals ı and ū before those inflective terminations which begin with vowels. When these syllables are substituted, the nouns are inflected before the vowel terminations as if they ended with the semi vowels y and y. After the syllables iy and uv the inflective terminations undergo no change.
iy and uv are separately substituted for the final ı and ü, when they are monosyllabic, e.g.,

dhiyah (AV. IX. 2.25),
tanvam (AV. I. 2.2),
dhīyam (AV. III. 15.3; 16.3),
tanye (AV. I. 3.4),
dhīve (AV. VI. 4.3),
dhīyā (AV. XVIII. 1.18),
tanvā (AV. I. 33.4), etc.

We can decline stri (AV. XII. 1.25) and vadhūp (AV. XIV. 2.20) as they are found in the AV. The s of the nom. sing. is rejected after such nouns in ı, but not after ü. After both, m is substituted for am, s for the as. n is inserted before the gen. plu. ā before the ab. and gen. sing. and ām for loc. sing. and make the vowel short in voc. sing. e.g.,

nom. sing. stri (AV. XII. 1.25),
nom. plu. striyah (AV. IX. 14.15),
acc. sing. striyam (AV. VIII. 4.24),
dat. sing. striyai (AV. V. 30.3),
ab. sing. striyah (AV. XII. 2.39),
gen. plu. strīnām (AV. VIII. 6.13),
loc. sing. strīyām (AV. VI. 11.2),
loc. plu. strīsu (AV. XII. 1.25),
nom. sing. vadhūḥ (AV. XIV. 2.20),
nom. plu. vādhvāḥ (AV. VIII. 6.14),
acc. sing. vadhūṁ (AV. X. 1.1),
dat. sing. vadhvai (AV. XIV. 2.9),
voc. sing. vadhū (AV. XIV. 1.58).

But in some instances of the AV. there is no elision
of ś in nom. sing. 28, e.g.,
lakṣmīḥ (AV. VII. 120.2-4; XI. 1.17), etc.

There are some polysyllabics derived from a compound
verb. The language of the AV. has certain compounds of
bhū which are by special rule excepted from substituting
uv, e.g.,
paribhū (AV. IV. 25.1),
paribhūvah (AV. IX. 15.17),
punarbhīva (AV. IX. 5.28),
svayamdbhū (AV. X. 8.44), etc.
Nouns Ending in r, r, l, and j in the Atharva-Veda

Bases ending in r are found in all the genders in the AV. and we can divide them into two categories. Firstly, a r formed by guna ar, e.g., pitrah (AV. X. 6.32) and secondly formed by vṛddhi ar, e.g., svast = svastār (AV. IX. 14.3), etc. For mas. noun in r substitute an for the final, and according to the analogy of nouns in an form the nom. sing. ṛ, and ṛ is dropped, e.g.,
pitā (AV. I. 24.3).

In one order of nouns ending in r, the guna form ar is substituted for the final before vowel termination of the nom. dual and plu. and of the acc. sing. and dual, e.g.,
pitareu (AV. VI. 120.3),
pitārā (AV. XVIII. 1.23),
pitāraḥ (AV. V. 24.15),
pitāram (AV. I. 2.1).

Before the acc. plu. the vowel is made long and a changed into ā, e.g.,
pitāṃ (AV. V. 30.1).

Before the gen. plu. the vowel is made long and ṛ
is inserted before ́an, e.g.,

\textit{pitrnam} (AV. XVIII. 3.63).

Before the vowel termination of the ins. and dat. sing. and gen. and loc. dual, \( r \) is changed into a semi vowel \( r^34 \) and it is changed to \( ar \) in the loc. and voc. sing., e.g.,

\textit{pitr} (AV. VII. 59.2),
\textit{pitah} (AV. VI. 4.3).

Before the vowel termination of the ab. and gen. sing. \( us \) takes the place of \( as \), e.g.,

\textit{pituḥ} (AV. I. 14.2).

From the viewpoint of the Atharvanic language, we can put forth the whole matter in the following way. The rejection of \( s \) in the nom. sing. The substitution of \( n \) in acc. plu. and of \( us \) for \( as \) in the ab. and gen. sing., and \( s \) is rejected. The \( u \) of \( us \) is prefixed to the semi vowel \( r \), which as a final is changed to Visarjaniya.

\( nr \) is declined also like \( pitr \) except in the gen. plu. where the vowel is found short in the AV., e.g.,

\textit{nrnapam} (AV. II. 9.2).

All the mas. nouns of the AV ending in \( r \) are declined
like pitṛ and the fem. nouns of affinity are declined also like pitṛ, except in the acc. plu., e.g.,

ṣmatṛh (AV. IX. 14.2).

Nouns derived from roots with the affix trc and trn, such as kartr, svasr, naptr, duhitr, dātr, tvastr change their r to a in the nom. sing., e.g.,

kārtā (AV. V. 29.1),
hōtā (AV. XVIII. 1.29).

and change to ār in first five inflections, e.g.,

kārtāram (AV. X. 1.3; 25),
hōtārāh (AV. V. 3.5; 27.9),
hōtārā (AV. V. 12.7), etc.

The r is lengthened in the acc. and gen. plu., e.g.,

kārtṛn (AV. X. 1.14; 17),

dātṛnām (AV. V. 24.3).

And the r changes into ur before the ab. and gen. sing. The voc. sing. ends in ār, e.g.,

hōtuh (AV. IX. 14.1),

hōtah (AV. VII. 102.1).
They are declinable in three genders and declined like kartr.

In Classical Sanskrit the word kartr has some special features but the language of the AV. has only four inflections of it, e.g., nom. sing., acc. sing. and plu. and da. sing. Neu. words ending in r are hardly found in the AV. and those which are found have no analogy with the Classical Sanskrit.

**Nouns Ending in ai in the Atharva-Veda**

There is no example in the language of the AV., where a occurs as final of a word. There are some nouns ending in ai declining regularly, the terminations remain unchanged, the inflective base substitutes a for its final before the consonantal terminations and changed into ay before the vowels, e.g.,

- nom. sing. rayin (AV. I. 15.2),
- nom. plu. rayah (AV. XVIII. 1.43),
- acc. sing. rayin (AV. XVIII. 3.11),
- ins. sing. rayin (AV. XIV. 2.36) & rayin (AV. VI. 78.2),
- da. sing. rayin (AV. XVIII. 2.37),
- gen. plu. rayinam (AV. XVI. 3.1).
Rai 'substance', 'wealth', is neu. in the language of the AV. and some time is found as fem.

**Nouns Ending in o in the Atharva-Veda**

The AV. has only two examples where nouns ending in o, viz., _go and dvo both are mas. and fem.

The word _go substitutes the vrddhi letter au for the final of the strong cases. They substitute a for the final before the termination of the acc. sing. and plu. Before the other terminations o becomes av, e.g.,

- _gauh_ (AV. XIII. 1.41),
- _dyauh_ (AV. XV. 4.18),
- _gavau_ (AV. VII. 100.2),
- _gavah_ (AV. XIV. 1.13),
- _gām_ (AV. XIII. 1.56),
- _dyām_ (AV. XIII. 1.43),
- _gāh_ (AV. XVIII. 1.6).

The case affix as of the ab. and gen. sing. which reject the initial a of as and consequently the final of the base is unchanged, e.g.,

- _goh_ (AV. XII. 2.37).
Nouns Ending in au in the Atharva-Veda

We find a few nouns in the AV. whose bases end in au, not sufficiently numerous to form several classes.

Nau, fem. is inflected strictly regular, it can be judged by a few inflexions occurring in the language of the AV., e.g.,

nom. sing. and plu. nau (AV. VI. 95,2) nau (AV. V. 4.5),
acc. sing. navam (AV. XVII. 1.25),
ins. sing. navā (AV. IV. 33.8).

Glau mas. occurs in one form only in the language of the AV., e.g.,

nom. sing. glau (AV. VI. 83.3).

Nouns Ending in Consonants in the Atharva-Veda

In the language of the AV. nouns ending in consonants modify their finals before the inflectional terminations, according to the rules of sandhi. They end in the last four classes of nouns. The modification of the inflective stems may undergo with few exceptions, confined to the strong cases. The inflexion terminations are unchanged; there is of course one form for both mas. and fem. nouns. In the neu. the termination of the two first cases dual and plu.
are changed, when after nominal stems ending in vowel, \( i \) or \( u \) and \( n \) is prefixed to the last consonant of the stem.

**Nouns Ending in the Gutturals in the Atharva-Veda**

In the language of the AV. no guttural occurs as a final, because a hard consonant is optionally converted into a soft when it is final, in the nom. sing. \( * \text{Complete} \)ly before the terminations of the dual and plu. beginning with \( bh\). A soft consonant must be replaced by a hard consonant before \( su \). The terminations starting with vowels are not replaced, because then they are not regarded as final letters.\(^4\)

**Nouns Ending in Palatals in the Atharva-Veda**

In the language of the AV. bases ending in a palatal, generally replace \( k \) for the final before the inflectional terminations beginning with consonants\(^3\), e.g.,

- nom. sing. \( \text{vāc}=\text{vāk} \) (AV. XVI. 2.1; 6),
- nom. sing. \( \text{rc} = \text{rk} \) (AV. XI. 9.5; XIV. 2.71).

This is again a subject to the common auiphonic alteration, e.g.,

- acc. sing. \( \text{vācam} \) (AV. XVI. 2.2),
- ins. sing. \( \text{vācā} \) (AV. XVIII. 1.30),
There are several words of this class in the AV, which are declined in the same manner, e.g.,

\[ tvacah \] (AV. XII. 3.53),

\[ sucuh \] (AV. VI. 105.1), etc.

There is a large number of words in the AV. ending in \( c \), formed by adding the affix \( k \) and they insert a nasal before the final in the strong cases only, e.g.,

nom. sing. arvah (AV. XVII. 1.17),

nom. dual arvancau (AV. V. 26.12),

nom. plu. arvancah (AV. IX. 14.19),

acc. sing. arvanacam (AV. XI. 4.1-8).
Similarly,

praṇ (AV. XV. 18.5),
pratyan (AV. XV. 18.5),
udan (AV. IX. 12.21), etc.

Nouns ending in ch does not once occur in the AV. It is found once in the RV. (RV. III. 54.16).

Nouns ending in j are declined in the same way as the word āṣrk is formed by adding the affix ṭ, e.g.,

nom. sing. āṣrk (AV. IX. 14.4).

Similarly,

nom. plu. rtvijah (AV. XII. 1.38), etc.

The AV. has something peculiar regarding noun samrāj. It's final j always changes into g, and g changes into ṭ, e.g.,

samrāṭ (AV. VI. 36.3).

But in Classical Sanskrit both the word formations are found as samrāṭ and samrāṛ according.

Nouns Ending in Linguals in the Atharva-Veda

Stems ending in lingual letters are hardly found in the AV. But ṭ and ṣ are used as substitutes for
nouns ending in $\frac{4}{9}$, e.g. (AV. IV. 1.5; VI. 36.3; 86.3) and so on. In this connection I mean to say, the first as a surd consonant is optionally changed.

The AV. has only one example where $t$ occurs as final, e.g.,

nom. plu. raghatah (AV. VIII. 7.24).

But some scholars have considerably discordant reading of raghatah is corrupted reading of raghavah. 50

Nouns Ending in Dentals in the Atharva-Veda

In the language of the AV. mostly all the nouns of dental class, however, appear as the last member of compounds. Stems ending in consonants of this class are for the most part regular, being subject to no other changes than those that the laws of sandhi require. The final in the nom. is either the non-aspirated hard or soft letter $t$ or $d$, before bh it is the soft $d$, and before su the hard consonant $t$, e.g.,

nom. plu. marutah (AV. VII. 82.1),
ins. plu. marudbhuh (AV. VII. 103.1),
nom. plu. hrdah (AV. XVIII. 1.14),
Besides nouns of a common feature ending in dentals, there are certain declinable participles ending in at and vat which undergo some modification of the inflective base before the terminations of the nom. and before the acc. sing. and dual, e.g.,

\[\text{gacchata (AV. XVIII. 3.44)},\]
\[\text{gacchatam (AV. XVIII. 2.53)},\]
\[\text{krnvat (AV. V. 28.14)},\]

In all the other cases, they are regularly declined like other nouns ending in t, that is, the vowel affixes are attached to the final, t is unaltered before su, and becomes d before bh.

These participial and possessive nouns prefix the n to their final t before the terminations of the strong cases, e.g.,

\[\text{p\textasciitilde{c}cat = p\textasciitilde{c}can (AV. XII. 3.24)},\]
\[\text{krnv\textasciitilde{v}at = krnv\textasciitilde{v}an (AV. V. 28.14)}.\]

Those ending in vat or mat also make the penultimate long in the nom., e.g.,
krnvat (AV. V. 28.14) becomes krnvanah (AV. II. 29.3).

The word mahat has some peculiarities in the AV. It makes penultimate long in the strong cases of the mas. and that of the two first cases plu. of the neuter, e.g.,

nom. sing. mahan (AV. XII. 1.18),

nom. plu. mahantah (AV. III. 10.4),

acc. sing. mahantam (AV. XI. 2.29).

Nouns Ending in Labials in the Atharva-Veda

Bases, which end in labials are not numerous in the AV., no neuter of this class occurs in the AV. All the monosyllabic bases are declined on similar ground whether they are mas. or fem.

The nom. ends in p or b. The final remains before the vowel terminations, and b before bh and p before su, e.g.,

kakubh = nom. sing. kakup (AV. XIII. 1.15),

nom. plu. kakubhah (AV. VIII. 6.10),

tristubh = nom. sing. tristup (AV. XVIII. 2.6),

acc. sing. tristubham (AV. VIII. 1.17), etc.

There is one irregular noun in labial class known as ap(water), declinable only in the plu. number, e.g.,
nom. plu. āpah (AV. VII. 19.2), here, we see penultimate becomes long⁵⁵, acc. plu. apah (AV. XVIII. 2.7), ins. plu. adbhih (AV. XVIII. 1.55). bh changes into t⁵⁶ and after into dh, dat. or ab. plu. adbhyah (AV. XV. 2.7), gen. plu. āram (AV. XIV. 1.37), loc. plu. anṣu (AV. XVII. 1.3), and so on.

Nouns terminating in ā, ṅ, and m do not even once occur in the AV. and in the whole of the Vedic language, but few are met ending in m in the Classical Sanskrit.

Bases ending in m are numerous in the AV. and exhibiting so many peculiarities. They can be divided in two ways, one ending in an, the other ending in in.

(a) Nouns Ending in an

We can take up the declension of mas. noun ending in an as found in the AV., when regularly inflected, nouns in an drop the final in the nom. sing. and before the terminations beginning with consonant and in the mas. and fem. genders, they make the penultimate letter long before all the terminations of the strong case⁵⁷, e.g.,

raja (AV. XVIII. 1.33),
rajānau (AV. XVIII. 1.54),
rajanah (AV. III. 5.7),
rajanam (AV. XVIII. 1.40),
atma (AV. XVI. 3.5),
atmanam (AV. X. 8.44),
maghava (AV. XIV. 2.47),
maghavanam (AV. III. 19.3),
brahma (AV. XVIII. 4.15),
brahmana (AV. VI. 68.3),
aryama (AV. XIV. 1.50).

But in voc. sing. n is not dropped, e.g.,
rajan (AV. XVIII. 1.60),
atman (AV. XII. 3.54).

In acc. plu. dat. sing. and gen. plu. n of rajan
is changed into n58, e.g.,
rajnah (AV. VI. 68.1),
rajhe (AV. XV. 2.17),
rajnam (AV. IV. 22.5).

In loc. sing. we find only one word formation in
the language of the AV., e.g.,
rajani (AV. VI. 116.1).
In Classical Sanskrit rājñi and rājani, both the formations are available.  

In the neut. form, the vowel is made long according to general rule, in the plu. Where, however, a nasal is not inserted before a nasal, e.g., sāman = nom. plu. sāmāni (AV. XI. 8.14) and nom. sing. su and n both are dropped in the language of the AV.  

The AV. has a worth noting example where āhā (AV. XVIII. 1.31) is used in place of ahassu loc. plu. The word formation āhā is not found elsewhere excepting the AV., where it has been used in this sense.

Other word formations of this class follow the same analogy in the language of the AV.

(b) Nouns Ending in in

Most probably the nouns ending in in are mas., which are hardly found in neu. and in fem. i is inserted, e.g., aśvin to aśvini (AV. VII. 51.2). All of which are declined on the same pattern. They make the base of the penultimate and reject the final n before the consonants in non. sing. mas.  

But they retain n before the vowels, e.g., accus. sing. vājinam (AV. X. 6.11), nom. dual and accus. dual. aśvinau (AV. XVIII. 2.33) and so on.
They also drop the final n before the consonant in the nom. sing. neu., e.g., vairî (AV. II. 5.5). But the n is not rejected in voc. sing. e.g., vairîn (AV. VII. 76.1).

The AV. has one irregular noun of this class: pathîn. It should be noted here that the e is substituted for the final syllable before the affix of the nom. sing., a is substituted for i in the other affixes of the strong cases, and nth is substituted for th in the nom. and those of the acc. sing. and dual, e.g.,

nom. sing.  

\[ \text{panthā} \text{h} \text{ (AV. XVIII. 4.14)} \]

nom. plu.  

\[ \text{panthānā} \text{h} \text{ (AV. XIV. 1.34)} \]

acc. sing.  

\[ \text{panthān} \text{m} \text{ (AV. XII. 1.47)} \]

And in is dropped in acc. plu., e.g.,

\[ \text{pathā} \text{h} \text{ (AV. XV. 11.3)} \], etc.

Nouns Ending in Semi Vowels (y, r, l, w) in the Atharva-Veda

Stems ending in y and l have rare occurrences in the language of the AV.; if somewhere they occur, they are regular.

Nouns borrowed from verbal roots ending in r make a penultimate vowel long before the inflectional terminations which begin with consonant, e.g.,

ins. plu. fem.  

\[ \text{girbhih} \text{ (AV. XIII. 1.53)} \].
The AV. contains a peculiarity regarding loc. plu., where it has a word formation girisu (AV. IX. 1.18) which cannot be justified according to general rule of Sanskrit grammar.66

The AV. has only one example (div. fem.) where y occurs as final. y changes into au in the nom. sing. and to u before the consonantal termination67, after that i of di becomes y68, e.g.,

nom. sing. dyauh (AV. II. 12.6),
acc. sing. dyuvam (AV. VII. 50.9),
dat. sing. dyuven (AV. VII. 109.5).

The other terminations of this class depend on the same pattern.

Nouns Ending in Sibilants (s, s, s) in the Atharva-Veda

Stems ending in s are not numerous in the language of the AV. These are declined in all three genders on similar grounds, and all are formed by the verbal roots. For instance, we can take up the fem. noun dik. It is formed from verbal root ending in s with the affix k69, e.g.,

nom. sing. dik (AV. III. 27.1),
ab. plu. digbhyaḥ (AV. XIII. 7.6),
loc. plu. dikṣu (AV. XVIII. 1.46).

If we construct with any other affix, then § is
substituted for the final and for § the cerebral ̣ is
placed and after that ̣ is changed into ḍ, e.g.,
dat. plu. vidbhyaḥ (AV. III. 3.3).

No neut. form is available of it in the AV.

In pre Atharvanic language, where drś occurs as the
final member of compounds, there ṣ is substituted for
final ś in nom. sing. 71, e.g., kīḍṛṇ, ɪḍṛṇ, sadṛṇ,
anyāḍṛṇ and so on. But in the language of the AV. this
type of tendency is strictly prohibited. In the AV. the
ś of drś is changed into ḍ, e.g.,

ɪḍɪ̄k (AV. IV. 27.6).

Nouns Ending in ś in the Atharva-Veda

There are some nouns in the AV. which are derived
from the roots, e.g., dviṣ = nom. plu. dviṣah (AV. II. 6.5)
etc. Some nouns have independent existence in the AV.,
e.g., tviṣ, dadrṛṣ etc. And some occur as the final member
of the compounds in the language of the AV.

Nouns of this class are inflected in the AV. in the
following ways by converting in ḍ for the final before the
consonantal inflexions. Secondly by converting in \( k \) in the similar forms; thirdly by converting in \( r^* \), e.g.,

- nom. sing. \( \text{dadhrk} \) (AV. XVIII. 2.58),
- nom. plu. \( \text{ugah} \) (AV. XVI. 6.6),
- nom. plu. \( \text{dvisah} \) (AV. V. 6.4),
- nom. plu. \( \text{isah} \) (AV. XVIII. 1.42), etc.

Nouns Ending in \( s \) in the Atharva-Veda

Nouns ending in \( s \) are not numerous in the AV. They find in all three genders. Nouns mas. and fem. ending in \( s \) when preceded by \( a \), make the penultimate long in the nom. sing. and \( ru \) becomes \( \mu \) before the inflections beginning with \( bh \) and after that preceding \( a \) becomes \( o^* \), e.g.,

- nom. sing. \( \text{candramah} \) (AV. XV. 15.5),
- nom. sing. \( \text{vedhah} \) (AV. XVIII. 1.1).

One mas. noun ending in \( as \) is irregular in the language of the AV., e.g., anehas(time). It is declined in the nom. sing. ending in \( an \), e.g.,

- \( \text{aneha} \) (AV. VI. 84.3).

The AV. has some participial stems ending in \( \text{vas} \), which before the inflexions of the strong cases, mas. prefix a nasal to the \( s \) of \( \text{vas} \) and the preceding vowel is
prolonged. In the nom. sing. the s is rejected, as the final of a conjunct consonant, e.g.,

nom. sing. vidvēn (AV. XVII. 1.16),

nom. plu. vidvēnsah (AV. VI. 115.1),

acc. sing. vidvēnsam (AV. XV. 2.3).

And in the acc. plu. the v of vas is changed into u, e.g.,

acc. plu. vidvēsah (AV. XII. 4.22).

In the AV. neu. noun in as does not make the penultimate long in the nom. and acc. sing. and the s of inflexion is dropped, e.g., nom. sing. yājuh (AV. XVIII. 1.32). In acc. plu. vowel is made long, and after that si and num are substituted, e.g., nom. plu. yājūnsi (AV. V. 26.1).

In neu., there is little difference in the language of the AV., e.g., chadis is declined as: nom. sing.

chadīp (AV. III. 7.3 and XIV. 1.10), excepting nom. and acc. remaining forms are declined on the same pattern.

**Nouns Ending in Aspiration (h) in the Atharva-Veda**

Bases ending in h are too rare in the language of the AV. mas. fem. and neu. all are found in their inflexion, but neu. is hardly found, if found, then makes nom. and acc. only. Excepting a few, all the rest...
occur as final member of the compounds. The fem. is the same as the mas.

Nouns ending in h substitute dh for a d and gh for a final h, which becomes k before the consonant inflections, e.g., goduk = godhuk (AV. VII. 77.6).

Mas. anaduh decline as follows in the AV. In the nom. and voc. sing. n is substituted for final and in the strong cases a is prefixed to the final, before which, u becomes y, e.g.,

nom. sing. anadvhan (AV. XII. 3.49),
nom. dual. anadvahan (AV. XIV. 1.10),
nom. plu. anadvahan (AV. IV. 11.3),
acc. sing. anadvahan (AV. XII. 2.48).

And before the consonantal inflections h is replaced by d, e.g., da. plu. anadvahyha (AV. VI. 59.1).

Turāśah has the peculiarity of changing s to z, when the final is converted, e.g., turāśah = turāṣāt (AV. II. 5.3).

Other inflexions of this class contain the same analogy.
Degrees of Comparison in the Atharva-Veda

Nouns of this class are declined in the same way as substantive nouns in the AV. They admit three genders and vary as to their inflectional terminations according to their proper finals. These affixes are useful in forming the comparative and the superlative degrees accordingly of attributives and adverbs. Technically they are known as tara, tama. The crude form of nouns undergo certain changes before these terminations, e.g., priyātama (AV. XIV. 2.50). Thus the word priyātama is formed by adding the affix of superlative degree to the fem. word priya (a wife) whose long ā is shortened before the affix tama.

In the AV. the same affixes are added to some roots, e.g., ud (up) may make uttārap (AV. XII. 1.54) and uttāmaḥ (AV. VI. 15.1) 'better' and 'best'. These are formed with the terminations of the comparative and superlative degrees.

In the language of the AV. adjectives of comparison are also formed, adding the affixes iyās and īsta, they denote the comparative and superlative degrees respectively. Those which are formed with iyās are declined like nouns ending in ā (mentioned above), and
those with istha in the manner explained under nouns ending in a. Most probably these are added to the original nouns, e.g.,

com. kaniyah (AV. III. 15.5),
sup. kanistha (AV. X. 8.28),
com. sreiyah (AV. V. 20.9),
sup. srestham (AV. VI. 21.2),
com. varsiyasah (AV. VI. 136.2),
sup. varsistha (AV. IV. 9.8), etc.

Numerals in the Atharva-Veda

In the AV. numerals are formed on the same principles as other nouns are formed. But in some cases they undergo peculiar changes of the stem which are worth considering:

Eka : eka is formed as a numeral in the sing. number only, in all three genders, e.g.,

mas. ekah (AV. X. 2.14),
neu. ekam (AV. XVIII. 2.6),
fem. ekā (AV. IX. 5.10).

Dvi : dvi is declined in the dual only. Its final i is changed to a, e.g.,
nom. and acc. dual, mas. dvau (AV. XV. 3.4),
dva (AV. XVIII. 2.33),
fem. and neu. dva (AV. VIII. 2.21),
ins. and others dvabhām (AV. VII. 4.1).

Tri : tri and the rest are formed in the plu. only. Tri
substitutes e for i, becoming ay before a vowel, e.g.,
trayāḥ (AV. XVIII. 4.4). Tri converted into tisr in the
fem. gender and the r of tisr becomes r before a vowel,
e.g., tisrah (AV. XIII. 3.21). In neu. nom. and acc. n is
inserted and i is made long, e.g., trini(AV. XVIII. 1.17).
And the rest follow the analogy of mas.

Catur : Catur inserts a before the final in the nom. mas.
and nom. and acc. neu., e.g., catvāraḥ (AV. I. 31.2),
catvāra (AV. XIV. 1.60) and it substitutes catasṛ before
the inflections of the fem. and r becomes r before a
vowel, e.g., cātasraḥ (AV. XVII. 1.16).

The rest numerals declinable in the plu. only, are
equal in all three genders.

Dealing with the numerals which are ending in n,
it can be said that a final n is dropped before all the
affixes, and the terminations of the nom. and acc. are
set aside. The word aṣṭaṇ has a peculiarity which is
necessary to notice, au is substituted for nom. and acc.
cases, e.g., astau (AV. II. 12.7) and the remaining pānca, saptan, navan, daśan are declined on the same analogy of this class.

The first nine are composed with daśan to construct the next nine, undergoing in some citations inadequate changes of termination. The remaining numerals, to hundred or more than hundred are found in the form of copulative compounds, e.g.,

- ekavimsat (AV. VIII. 9.20),
- catvāriṁsat (AV. V. 15.4),
- ākaśatam (AV. XI. 8.16),
- trisaśatā (AV. XI. 7.2),
- daśaśatā (AV. V. 18.10),
- satasahasrā (AV. XI. 7.2), etc.

**Ordinals in the Atharva-Veda**

The treatment of ordinals in the AV. can be defined as follows: that the bases ending in a are formed in the mas. and neu. and Ṛṣam ending in i and ā are declined in fem. It means ordinals are declinable in three genders.
First (Prathama) : Various suffixes are used when we are dealing with the ordinals from first to tenth. The ordinal first (prathama) is formed in all the genders, e.g.,

mas. prathamaḥ (AV. XVIII. 1.19),

fem. prathama (AV. X. 9.1),

neu. prathamam (AV. XIV. 2.3).

From the viewpoint of pronominal inflexion, other synonym adyam (AV. VIII. 2.19) is declined in neu. only in the language of the AV.

According to some best authorities th in prathama is due to the influence of caturthā, paṇcathā, sāṣṭhā. But according to Wackernagel, it is formed by adding tha and ma two affixes with pra.

Second and Third : When we are on the way of forming ordinals from dvi and tri, then affix tiya is inserted in the sense of completer there of, after the word and there is vocalisation (samprasāraṇ) of the stem, e.g.,

dvitiyāḥ (AV. XIII. 5.3), 'the second' which completes the two (dvayoh pūraṇo = dvitiyāḥ) and tvatiya (AV. XV. 15.5), 'the third' which completes the three (trayaḥ pūraṇo = tvatiya).
One thing should be noticed here that Achārya Panini has used a new term pūraṇa (complete) for ordinals excluding the first.

Fourth: In forming ordinal from catūr, affix īya is added to its proper final, and there is elision of the first letter (ca) in the AV. e.g., turīya(AV. XIV. 2.3).

From the viewpoint of highest authorities the word 'turiya' came through ṭ-turiya. But according to Grassmann its first position will be caturīya.

In constructing ordinals from catūr, sas and saptān, affix tha is inserted to their proper final in the language of the AV., e.g.,

caturthah (AV. XV. 15.6),
sāsthāḥ (AV. XIII. 5.4),
saptāṭhāṃ (AV. IX. 14.16).

In making ordinals from pānca, saptān, aṣṭān, nāvan and dāśān generally affix ma is added, e.g.,
pāṇcamāḥ (AV. XV. 15.7),
saptamāḥ (AV. XIII. 5.4),
aṣṭamāḥ (AV. XIII. 5.5),
navaṃ (AV. XIII. 5.5),
dāśamāḥ (AV. XIII. 5.5).
The termination \( \text{ekadasa} \) is inserted in ekadasan and the remaining to twenty, e.g.,

- ekadasah (AV. V. 16.11),
- dvadasa (AV. XI. 8.22),
- trayodasah (AV. V. 6.4),
- pancadasah (AV. XI. 1.19),
- gojasam (AV. III. 29.1).

The same affix, causing the loss either of the final syllable, or final vowel, is also inserted to the numerals from twenty upwards in the language of the AV., e.g.,

- ekavinasa (AV. VIII. 9.20).

In another form hundred upwards, they add tama to their finals in the AV., e.g.,

- sahasrasatama (AV. III. 28.4).

The AV. has some other modifications of the numerals, declinable or indeclinable in various form of meaning, as krtvah, e.g., astkrtvah (AV. XI. 2.9) and dhā is also inserted, e.g., astadhā (AV. XIII. 3.19), ekadhā (AV. X. 10.5), navadhā (AV. XIII. 4.10), panchadhā (AV. IV. 14.7), sahasradhā (AV. X. 7.9), and so on.
Pronouns in the Atharva-Veda

The pronouns in the language of the AV. are so irregular in their formation that no one base would be equally applicable to all the cases. Due to some peculiarities of inflexion they are distinguished from all other nouns.

We can class them in the following ways as they are found in the AV.

(a) Personal pronouns: *Asmad* (AV. I. 2.3), *tāva* (yuṣmad) (AV. VII. 10.3), *tād* (AV. X. 1.19); *tvad* do not even once occur in the AV.

(b) Demonstrative pronouns: *Adas* (AV. II. 3.1), *stat* (AV. VI. 29.1), *idam* (AV. I. 7.3).

(c) Relative pronouns: *vād* (AV. XI. 1.30).

(d) Interrogative pronouns: *kim* (AV. V. 11.5).

(e) Honorific pronouns: *bhavat* (AV. XIV. 2.24).

(f) Pronominal pronouns: *sārvaḥ* (AV. I. 7.4), *viśvam* (AV. XVIII. 1.18), etc.

In the language of the AV. pronominal noun sārva has some peculiarities of its inflexion in the following
respects:

Nom. plu. e is substituted for ā, e.g.,

sarve (AV. XV. 6.22) for sarvāḥ.

Dat. sing. smai is substituted for ne, e.g.,
sārvasmaie (AV. XIII. 5.6) for sarvāya.

Ab. sing. smāt is substituted for nasī, e.g.,
sārvasmāt (AV. X. 1.11) for sarvāt.

Gen. plu. s is substituted for hī, e.g.,
sārveśām (AV. XV. 6.23) for sarvānām.

Loc. sing. smin is substituted for hi. But loc. sing. sārvasmin is not once met in the AV.

After the fem. form sārvā, sya is prefixed to the terminations of the dat. ab. gen. sing. and loc. sing. and the final of the inflective base is made short, e.g., sārvasyai (AV. XIV. 2.27), sārvasyāḥ (AV. VII.13.3) and in gen. plu. s is prefixed to ām, e.g., sārvāsām (AV. XV. 6.23). Neu. has no peculiarity. In the language of the AV, all the words of this section follow the analogy of sarva as far as it concerns the inflectional terminations excluding of the first two personal pronouns (asmađ and yuṣmad) which are altogether irregular in their inflexions.
Personal Pronouns (Asmad and Yugmad)

The language of the AV. indicates the general and indefinite character of the first-personal pronouns (asmad and yugmad) no difference of gender is made. They are generally anomalous in inflexion. The word formation of the nom. resemble the neu., e.g.,

- ahäm (AV. XVII. 1.6),
- vaväm (AV. XI. 1.5),
- tväm (AV. XII. 1.15),
- yuväm (AV. XVIII. 1.31),
- yuväm (AV. I. 26.3).

Ab. plu. mas. have no case ending, e.g., asmat (AV. IV. 17.5) and there is no vocative case in whole of the pronouns and pronominal nouns in the AV.
REFERENCES

2. Skt. Gr., p. 89.
5. P. Gr. V. 4.124.
8. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.70.
11. Cf. P. Gr. IV. 1.4; 13, 74-75.
12. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.68.
18. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 3.3.
21. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 3.120.
23. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.92; VII. 2.15.
28. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.68.
29. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.94.
30. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 4.8; VIII. 2.7.
32. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.101; 103.
33. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.54 and VI. 4.3.
34. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.77.
37. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.85 and VI. 1.78.
38. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.90.
40. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.115 and VI. 1.78.
41. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.110.
44. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.70.
45. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.62.
47. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 4.55.
49. Bohtlingk, R. Roth and St. Petersburg.
52. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.70 and VIII. 2.23.
54. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.68; VIII. 2.39; 4.55.
55. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 4.11.
57. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.7 and VI. 4.8.
60. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.123 and VIII. 2.7.
64. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.88.
65. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.76.
67. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.84 and VI. 1.130.
68. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.77.
70. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.39.
71. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.83.
72. Cf. P. Gr. III. 2.59; VIII. 2.62 and VIII. 2.66; 3.15.
73. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 4.14; VIII. 2.66; VI. 1.113.
74. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.70; VI. 4.10; VI. 1.68 and VIII. 2.23.
75. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 4.131.
76. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 1.68.
78. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.20; 70.
79. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.32; 37; 39; and VIII. 4.55.
80. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.82; 98; VI. 1.77.
81. Cf. P. Gr. VIII. 2.72.
82. Cf. P. Gr. I. 1.22.
83. Cf. P. Gr. VI. 3.43.
84. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.102.
85. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 3.109 and VI. 1.78.
86. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.99; and 100.
87. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 1.73; 20 and VI. 4.8.
89. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.99, 100.
90. Cf. P. Gr. VII. 2.34 and VII. 1.21.
93. Cf. P. Gr. V. 2.54; 55.
94. Cf. P. Gr., II. 2.11; V. 3.48; V. 1.48; V. 4.149; V. 2.48.

95. Cf. P. Gr., V. 2.51.


97. W.Z.R. S.V.

98. Cf. P. Gr., V. 2.51; 48, 50.

99. Cf. P. Gr., V. 2.48; 49.

100. Cf. P. Gr., V. 2.48.

101. Cf. P. Gr., V. 2.57.

102. Cf. P. Gr., V. 4.17.


104. Cf. P. Gr., VII. 1.17.


106. Cf. P. Gr., VII. 1.15.


108. Cf. P. Gr., VII. 1.15.


110. But loc. sing. word formation sārvasyām not once occurred in the Atharva-Veda.

111. Cf. P. Gr., VII. 1.52.