Notes on the history of suffixation in -ize: The historical competition between -ize and -ify
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**Notes on the history of suffixation in -ize:**
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**Final-stressed disyllabic adjectives**


(1) no trace of deadjectival verbs from:

- ab’rupt, ab’struse, ab’surd, ar’cane, au’gust, con’cise, co’rrupt, d’fuse, dis’creeet, i’mmense, na’ive, o’paque, p’quant, po’lite, pre’cise, pro’found, re’verse, ro’bust, se’vere, sin’cere, su’perm, su’preme

(2) those few that do take a suffix fall into 2 groups:

if final σ has C₁C₂ > -ify

if final σ V+C > -ize

but stress shifts to ’σσ+ize

in’tense – in’tensify (1817)

di’verse – di’versify (1490)

dis’tinct – dis’tinctify (only citation is from 1877)

in’tense – sim’-nize (1656)

di’verse – immunize (1889)

sub’lime – sub’limize (1729)

ma’rine – mar’-nize (1962)

pro’fane – pro’fanize (1876)

se’rene – ser’-enate (1598, rare in OED)

> for all doublets: -ify form antedates -ize form

> temporary uptick in -ize around the 1850s, but -ify forms predominate

> -id adjectives are logically expected to take -ize

> -ify shifts stress with respect to base Adj, while -ize does not

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**Adjectives in -id often take -ify**

(3a) -ify:

- a’cidify (1783), so’lidify (1799), reso’lidify (1825), sto’lidify (1827)
- ri’gidify (1829), flu’idify (1851), disa’cidify (1864), hu’midify (1885), ran’cidify (1908), a’ridify (1920), dehu’midify (1932)

(3b) -ize:

- ‘liquidize (1837), ’squalidize (1837), ’hybridize (1845), ’morbidize (1850), ’acidize (1852), ’fluidize (1855), ’rigidize (1858), ’viscidize (1859), ’frigidize (1868), re’hybridize (1894)

(4) there are doublets:

- a’cidify (1783) – ’acidize (1852)
- flu’idify (1851) – ’fluidize (1855)
- ri’gidify (1829) – rigidize (1858)

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**Very rare bases in an NCobsCobs cluster**

(5) sanctify (attested since 1390) besides sanctize (1691, recorded in one citation)

sanctize was the only verb with a bound and monosyllabic base in an NCobsCobs cluster with -ize

- ify has distinctify and sumptify (nonce, in a gloss from 1656)