

K&K Chapter 10 study questions (pp. 424-436 only)

To be turned in Oct. 9

Notes

p. 425: There are at least two possible interpretations of “marked 0”. One is that the segment actually has the feature specification [0F], so that it would be distinct from a matrix (in a rule, say), that includes [+F] or [-F]. The other is that the segment is just missing any value for F, and so would not be distinct from a matrix that includes [+F] or [-F].

p. 425, below (34): This is saying that there are two levels of representation in the lexicon: the underspecified level, and then the level after underspecified values have been filled in by MSRs. That’s what it means to say that MSRs apply “in the lexicon”.

Something to think about: How do we decide whether some regularity should be captured by a MSR or by a regular rule?

p. 431 (top): The Klamath argument against the “ordering solution” rests on the assumption that we want to be able to read off from the grammar what are the constraints on the underlying shapes of morphemes (see middle paragraph on p. 429). If we don’t want that from a grammar, then that argument doesn’t apply. So that’s something else to think about: how can we tell/decide whether or in what cases we want a grammar to account for morphemes’ underlying forms?

p. 432: Notice that (41) is not an epenthesis rule! (If it were, it would be a bad one, since it wouldn’t tell you which vowel to insert.)

p. 434: Even an “if-then” restriction isn’t necessarily expressible through a rule assigning redundant feature values. For example, what if the restriction were that if the first segment of the root is [+voice], then the root must have 5 segments? (That’s a silly example—are there any real examples like this?)

p. 435: “Directional” is used on this page not in the sense of left-to-right or right-to-left, but in the sense of whether one property predicts another but not vice versa (that would be a directional relationship between the two properties; if they predict each other, the relationship is non-directional).

Questions

1. Show a derivation for Chamorro ‘the house’ (p. 63) under the MSR proposal on p. 427, and another derivation for ‘the house’ under the no-MSR proposal (the “ordering solution”) on p. 428.

2. Is it necessary to have underspecification in the ordering solution? Show a derivation for Chamorro ‘the house’ under the ordering solution but with the UR fully specified for [round]. Do you have to make any changes to the rules to get it to work?