

## Hayes 1995 (pp. 270-206)<sup>1</sup> study question

To be turned in Tuesday, Nov 25—goes with Nanti analysis

### Notes Up to p. 296 is the most important part.

p. 271: “Canonical iamb”: the “best” iamb is a light-heavy sequence (second syllable is stressed), whereas the “best” trochee is a light-light sequence (first syllable is stressed), or a single heavy syllable.

p. 272: “Iambic/trochaic law”: roughly, iambs should be of uneven duration (light-heavy); trochees should be of even duration.

p. 273: “HV” = Halle & Vergnaud 1987

p. 274: Instead of having a bottom grid layer where every syllable gets a mark, Hayes collapses the bottom two layers, showing a period for a syllable that has no stress and an *x* for a syllable that has some stress. Parentheses on the bottom layer indicate feet; parentheses on the top layer show the domain of application of some rule, such as the phonological word (domain for assigning main stress).

p. 274: The point with (36h) is that you have three syllables in a row with equal prominence, but the grammar doesn’t do anything about it (e.g., by changing one of the diphthongs to a single short vowel), and this is typical cross-linguistically. If the grid in question were a stress grid instead, it would be typical for languages to resolve the clash somehow.

p. 277: “prohibits exhausting a prominence grid layer with extrametricality”: i.e., you can’t make a syllable extrametrical if that syllable contributes the sole mark to some prominence-grid layer.

p. 277: “=”: superheavy syllable; “—”: heavy syllable; “~”: light syllable. Acute accent (á) marks stress. (11) and (12) are showing that this dialect of Hindi marks the last syllable as extrametrical (unless doing so violates the condition in 10b), then applies “End Rule Right,” which looks at the most prominent layer (the bottom row of asterisks) and assigns an *x* (stress) to the rightmost syllable that has an asterisk on that layer. Convince yourself that this works in all the examples, including those not illustrated.

p. 280: “moraic trochee” = (LL), as in (19a), or (H), as in most of the other feet in (19). A degenerate foot has just one light syllable, as you see with the “leftovers” at the left edges of (19a,e,f,g).

p. 285: The reason Pirahã is troublesome is that stress rules don’t normally refer to groups of three syllables. We can ensure that stress falls in the last three syllables by making the last syllable extrametrical and then creating a two-syllable foot; but that seems to imply that stress can’t fall on the last of those three syllables.

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<sup>1</sup> Hayes, Bruce (1995). *Metrical Stress Theory*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Ch. 7, Syllable weight.

**Question**

1. Since this is the last reading for the quarter, I'll just invite you to formulate and answer your own study questions about this chapter!