

Class 4: A pause for some practice

- Palauan HW on rules will be due *Tuesday* (Jan. 20)
- I'll post another homework Tuesday night on OT.
- Study questions on Anderson and Kaplan might as well be delayed till Thursday (Jan. 22)

1. A recipe for attacking a phonology problem (rule version)

- a) Looking at just the a few forms, make a guess as to where the morpheme boundaries are.
- b) Based on that, make a guess as to the morphemes' underlying forms.
- c) Identify **alternations**: a morpheme (stem or affix) that seems to have more than one surface form.
- d) Make a conjecture as to what in the environment is conditioning the alternation.
- e) Can you turn it into a rule? If you can't figure out the features yet, just use curly brackets: {i, u}
- f) Test the mini-grammar you've got so far on some more forms. Eventually it will probably break.
 - If a surface form undergoes more changes than your grammar says it should, you probably need to add a new rule.
 - If a surface form undergoes fewer changes than your grammar says it should, you probably need to reorder your rules (to get bleeding or counterfeeding), or make the rule more specific.
- g) When you have more than one rule, think about whether their order could ever matter. What kind of form would you need to test the order? See if such a form is in the data, and test both orders.
- h) **When you get stuck**, be prepared to go back and questions any of your assumptions
 - Maybe the morpheme boundaries are in the wrong place
 - Maybe an underlying form is wrong (it could be any of a morpheme's surface forms, or something cobbled together from multiple surface forms)
 - Maybe a rule is too specific or too general

2. Try it on these Farsi data (from Odden 2005)

	<i>singular</i>	<i>plural</i>	
1.	zæn	zænan	'woman'
2.	læb	læban	'lip'
3.	hæsud	hæsudan	'envious'
4.	bæradær	bæradæran	'brother'
5.	bozorg	bozorgan	'big'
6.	mæleke	mælekean	'queen'
7.	valede	valedean	'mother'
8.	kæbire	kæbirean	'big'
9.	ahu	ahuan	'gazelle'
10.	hamele	hamelean	'pregnant'
11.	batt̪e	batt̪egan	'child'
12.	setare	setaregan	'star'
13.	bænde	bændegan	'slave'
14.	azade	azadegan	'freeborn'
15.	divane	divanegan	'insane'

3. Try it on these Finnish data (from Odden 2005)

nominative sing.	partitive sing.	
16. a:mu	a:mua	‘morning’
17. valo	valoa	‘light’
18. solu	solua	‘cell’
19. riek:o	riek:oa	‘willow grouse’
20. kip:o	kip:oa	‘scoop’
21. korkea	korkeaa	‘tall’
22. jako	jakoa	‘act of dividing’
23. katu	katua	‘street’
24. lento	lentoa	‘flying’
25. omena	omenaa	‘apple’
26. sa:rto	sa:rtoa	‘blockade’
27. kala	kalaa	‘fish’
28. særø	særøæ	‘infraction’
29. hymy	hymyæ	‘smile’
30. kesæ	kesææ	‘summer’
31. kømpelø	kømpeløæ	‘clumsy’
32. hylky	hylkyæ	‘shipwreck’
33. kylmæ	kylmææ	‘cold’
34. hylly	hyllyæ	‘shelf’
35. jæ:telø	jæ:teløæ	‘ice cream’
36. nækø	nækøæ	‘sight’
37. æiti	æitiæ	‘mother’
38. isoæiti	isoæitiæ	‘grandmother’
39. risti	ristiæ	‘cross’
40. lehti	lehtiæ	‘leaf’
41. væki	vækiæ	‘people’
42. jæarvi	jærveæ	‘lake’
43. typ:i	typ:æ	‘nitrogen’
44. kivi	kiveæ	‘stone’
45. nimi	nimeæ	‘name’
46. mæki	mækeæ	‘hill’
47. reki	rekeæ	‘sleigh’

4. Ramping up the difficulty a bit: Karok

Language isolate from California, very few speakers (Lewis 2009). Data from Bright 1957, via Kenstowicz & Kisseberth 1979.

- Remember to think about what your choices are for underlying representations—if one choice isn't working, try another.

	<i>imperative</i>	<i>1st person singular</i>	<i>3rd person singular</i>	
48.	pasip	nipasip	ʔupasip	'shoot'
49.	si:tva	nifi:tva	ʔusi:tva	'steal'
50.	kifnuk	nikifnuk	ʔukifnuk	'stoop'
51.	suprih	niʃuprih	ʔusuprih	'measure'
52.	ʔifik	niʔifik	ʔuʔifik	'pick up'
53.	ʔaktuv	niʔaktuv	ʔuʔaktuv	'pluck at'
54.	ʔaxjar	nixjar	ʔuxjar	'fill'
55.	ʔiʃkak	niʃkak	ʔuskak	'jump'
56.	ʔikʃah	nikʃah	ʔuksah	'laugh'
57.	ʔiʃriv	niʃriv	ʔusriv	'shoot at a target'
58.	ʔuksup	nikʃup	ʔuksup	'point'

- 'Laugh' and 'point' might be problematic. These data could help: [tapak-suru] 'to slice off', [ʔikrivip-ʃuru] 'to run off'

5. **Even tougher: Serbo-Croatian**, pasted from Kenstowicz & Kisseberth (1979), pp. 74-75

6. Serbo-Croatian. For purposes of this problem the data have been simplified in several respects. First, vowel length has not been indicated. Second, the accent has been simplified in the following ways: In forms that are transcribed with an accent, the location of the accent is predictable by rule; it need not be indicated in the lexicon for these words. Words which are transcribed without an accent belong to a different accentual class. For them the accent must be indicated in the lexicon. Also, for words transcribed with an accent, there is a later rule that retracts the accent one syllable to the left. Thus, a form that we transcribe as *mladá* has accent on the initial syllable phonetically. Finally, in this problem we are only concerned with the location of the accent; we do not indicate whether the accent is rising or falling in pitch.

Account for the alternations in the data with an ordered set of rules. Be sure to include a rule of accent placement for all words transcribed with an accent. Provide derivations for *múkao*, *muklá*, *kradém*, and *kráo*.

Adjectives

Masc.	Fem.	Neuter	Plural	Gloss
<i>mlád</i>	<i>mladá</i>	<i>mladó</i>	<i>mladí</i>	'young'
<i>púst</i>	<i>pustá</i>	<i>pustó</i>	<i>pustí</i>	'empty'
<i>bogat</i>	<i>bogata</i>	<i>bogato</i>	<i>bogati</i>	'rich'
<i>béo</i>	<i>belá</i>	<i>beló</i>	<i>belí</i>	'white'
<i>mío</i>	<i>milá</i>	<i>miló</i>	<i>milí</i>	'dear'
<i>zelén</i>	<i>zelená</i>	<i>zelenó</i>	<i>zelení</i>	'green'
<i>križan</i>	<i>križana</i>	<i>križano</i>	<i>križani</i>	'cross'
<i>jásan</i>	<i>jasná</i>	<i>jasnó</i>	<i>jasní</i>	'clear'
<i>ledan</i>	<i>ledna</i>	<i>ledno</i>	<i>ledni</i>	'frozen'
<i>dóbar</i>	<i>dobrá</i>	<i>dobró</i>	<i>dobrí</i>	'kind'
<i>bodar</i>	<i>bodra</i>	<i>bodro</i>	<i>bodri</i>	'alert'
<i>veseo</i>	<i>vesela</i>	<i>veselo</i>	<i>veseli</i>	'gay'
<i>ustao</i>	<i>ustala</i>	<i>ustalo</i>	<i>ustali</i>	'tired'
<i>múkao</i>	<i>muklá</i>	<i>mukló</i>	<i>muklí</i>	'hoarse'

Verbs

1 sg. pres	masc. past	fem. past	neuter past	Gloss
<i>tepém</i>	<i>tépao</i>	<i>teplá</i>	<i>tepló</i>	'wander'
<i>sšubém</i>	<i>škúbao</i>	<i>skublá</i>	<i>skubló</i>	'tear'
<i>tresém</i>	<i>trésao</i>	<i>treslá</i>	<i>tresló</i>	'shake'
<i>vezém</i>	<i>vézao</i>	<i>vezlá</i>	<i>vezló</i>	'lead'
<i>pletém</i>	<i>pléo</i>	<i>plelá</i>	<i>pleló</i>	'plait'
<i>kradém</i>	<i>kráo</i>	<i>kralá</i>	<i>kraló</i>	'steal'
<i>metém</i>	<i>méo</i>	<i>melá</i>	<i>meló</i>	'sweep'
<i>vedém</i>	<i>véo</i>	<i>velá</i>	<i>veló</i>	'lead'
<i>pečém</i>	<i>pékao</i>	<i>peklá</i>	<i>pekló</i>	'bake'
<i>žežém</i>	<i>žégao</i>	<i>žeglá</i>	<i>žegló</i>	'burn'

6. Makonde data (from Odden 2005)

- Use OT—basically the same procedure, except once you think you know what’s conditioning an alternation, instead of writing a rule, try our tableau recipe (repeated below for reference)

Acute accent in these examples marks stress, whose position is predictable

<i>Repeated imperative</i>	<i>Past</i>	<i>Imperative</i>	
59. amáŋga	amíle	áma	‘move’
60. taváŋga	tavíle	táva	‘wrap’
61. akáŋga	akíle	áka	‘hunt’
62. patáŋga	patíle	póta	‘twist’
63. tatáŋga	tatíle	tóta	‘sew’
64. dabáŋga	dabíle	dóba	‘get tired’
65. aváŋga	avíle	óva	‘miss’
66. amáŋga	amíle	óma	‘pierce’
67. tapáŋga	tapíle	tépa	‘bend’
68. patáŋga	patíle	péta	‘separate’
69. aváŋga	avíle	éva	‘separate’
70. babáŋga	babíle	béba	‘hold like a baby’
71. utáŋga	utíle	úta	‘smoke’
72. lukáŋga	lukíle	lúka	‘plait’
73. lumáŋga	lumíle	lúma	‘bite’
74. uŋgáŋga	uŋgíle	únga	‘tie’
75. iváŋga	ivíle	íva	‘steal’
76. pitáŋga	pitíle	píta	‘pass’
77. imbáŋga	imbíle	ímba	‘dig’
78. limáŋga	limíle	líma	‘cultivate’

- Start with the winning candidate and the fully faithful candidate.
- If the winning candidate \neq the fully faithful candidate...
 - Add the markedness constraint(s) that rule out the fully faithful candidate.
 - Add the faithfulness constraints that the winning candidate violates.
 - Think of other ways to satisfy the markedness constraints that rule out the fully faithful candidate. Add those candidates, and the faithfulness and markedness constraints that rule them out. How far to take this step is a matter of judgment .
- If the winning candidate = the fully faithful candidate, then you are probably including this example only to show how faithfulness prevents satisfaction of a markedness constraint that, in other cases, causes deviation from the underlying form.
 - Add that markedness constraint.
 - Add one or more candidates that satisfy that markedness constraint.
 - Add the faithfulness constraints that rule out those candidates.

7. Another OT exercise: Metaphony (just the two easy cases—we'll do hard ones later)

- From Walker 2005: Romance languages in which suffix vowels spread their [+high] feature to the stem.

Foggiano/Pugliese (Ethnologue classifies as dialect of Italian). Vowel inventory: i, e, ε, a, u, o, ɔ

pét-e	'foot'	pít-i	'feet'
móŋŋ-a	'soft (fem.)'	múŋŋ-u	'soft (masc.)'
kjén-a	'full (fem.)'	kjín-u	'full (masc.)'
gróss-a	'big (fem.)'	grúss-u	'big (masc.)'

Veneto (~ 6 million speakers in Italy/Slovenia/Croatia and Brazil) Same vowel inventory.

véd-o	'I see'	te víd-i	'you see'
kór-o	'I run'	te kúr-i	'you run'
prét-e	'priest'	prét-i	'priests'
bél-o	'beautiful (masc. sg.)'	bél-i	'beautiful (masc. pl.)'
mód-o	'way'	mód-i	'ways'
gát-o	'cat'	gát-i	'cats'

Next time: More OT: correspondence theory; targets vs. processes

References

- Bright, William. 1957. *The Karok language*. University of California Press.
- Kenstowicz, Michael & Charles Kisseberth. 1979. *Generative Phonology: Description and Theory*. New York: Academic Press.
- Lewis, M. Paul (ed.). 2009. *Ethnologue: languages of the world*. 16th ed. Dallas, TX: SIL International.
- Odden, David. 2005. *Introducing phonology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Walker, Rachel. 2005. Weak Triggers in Vowel Harmony. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 23(4). 917–989.