

Rhythmic Syncope and Phonological Restructuring

Dustin Bowers

April 1, 2014 - USC

Introduction

- “All discussion concerning rule opacity is predicated on the assumption that the less opaque situations are those which are the more natural or more expected ones [in language change, DAB]” (Kaye 1974:137)

Introduction

- “All discussion concerning rule opacity is predicated on the assumption that the less opaque situations are those which are the more natural or more expected ones [in language change, DAB]” (Kaye 1974:137)
- Opacity is more than a problem for OT.
- It is a problem for analysis.
- Language change can reveal how learners (fail to) tackle this problem.

Introduction

- “Odawa has added a rule fairly recently which deletes unstressed vowels (a.k.a. rhythmic syncope, DAB). . . . It would be interesting to speculate about the ultimate impact of this rule on Odawa phonology.” (Kaye 1974:148-9)

Introduction

- “Odawa has added a rule fairly recently which deletes unstressed vowels (a.k.a. rhythmic syncope, DAB). . . . It would be interesting to speculate about the ultimate impact of this rule on Odawa phonology.” (Kaye 1974:148-9)
- The data is in for Odawa and several similar languages.
- Rhythmic syncope systems undergo radical restructuring.

Outline

- Transitional Odawa extended phonetic reduction to deletion.¹
 - This created rhythmic syncope for language learners.
- New Odawa promptly restructured with:
 - a levelled lexicon,
 - reanalyzed prefixes,
 - transparent syncope.
- Rhythmic syncope has triggered restructuring elsewhere.
- Phonological theories should reflect rhythmic syncope's instability.

Transitional Odawa

–1930s Adults–

Rhythmic Syncope

- Core generalization: dramatically reduce unstressed vowels (Bloomfield 1957, Kaye 1973, Piggott 1983).
- $(\sigma \acute{\sigma}) \rightarrow (- \acute{\sigma})$
 $(n\acute{k}\acute{\lambda}) \rightarrow (n_k\acute{\lambda})$ ‘goose’

Rhythmic Syncope

- Core generalization: dramatically reduce unstressed vowels (Bloomfield 1957, Kaye 1973, Piggott 1983).
- $(\sigma \acute{\sigma}) \rightarrow (- \acute{\sigma})$
(nɪkÁ) (n_kÁ) ‘goose’
- Though it is severe reduction at this phase, will treat it as categorical deletion.
 - Assumed that learners did so too.

Paradigmatic Alternations

‘book’

/mΛZINΛʔIGAN/

(mΛZÍ)(nΛʔÍ)(gÁn)

(m_zÍ)(n_ʔÍ)(gÁn)

[mzínʔígán]

‘my book’

/ni-mΛZINΛʔIGAN/

(nimÁ)(zimÁ)(ʔigÁn)

(n_mÁ)(z_nÁ)(ʔ_gÁn)

[nmÁznÁʔgán]

UR

Stress

Syncope

SR

Paradigmatic Alternations

‘book’

/mʌzɪnʌʔɪɡʌn/

(mʌzɪ)(nʌʔɪ)(ɡʌn)

(m_zɪ)(n_ʔɪ)(ɡʌn)

[mzɪnʔɪɡʌn]

‘my book’

/ni-mʌzɪnʌʔɪɡʌn/

(nimʌ)(zimʌ)(ʔɪɡʌn)

(n_mʌ)(z_nʌ)(ʔ_ɡʌn)

[nmʌznʌʔɡʌn]

UR


Stress

Syncope

SR

- Vowel deletion depends on feet.
- But deletion destroys the feet.

- An intermediate representation guides deletion.
- Harmonic Serialism is very apt for this (McCarthy 2008).
- After stress constraints are satisfied, Eval does the following:

	(mΛzǐ)(nΛʔí)(gǎn)	*WEAKV	FTBIN	MAX-V
a. 	(mzín)(ʔí)(gǎn)		***	**
b.	(mΛzǐ)(nΛʔí)(gǎn)	**!	*	

- Stress-before-deletion is impossible in Classic OT (Kager 1997, Blumenfeld 2006).
- Classic OT tries to make footing and syncope apply simultaneously.
- Unstressed vowel avoidance spurs FTBIN violations.
 - But there are many ways to foot a word into degenerate feet.

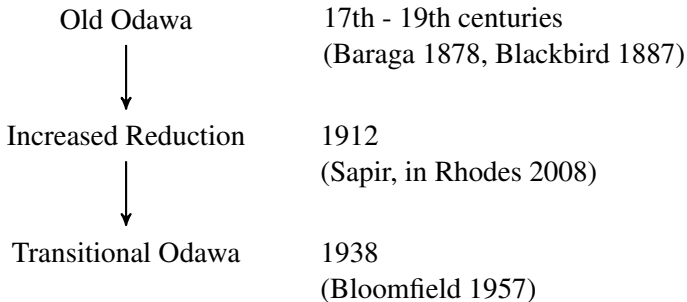
mΛZINΛʔIɔN	*WEAKV	FTBIN	MAX-V
a. ☞ (mzín)(ʔí)(gán)		***	**
b. (mΛzí)(nΛʔí)(gán)	**!	*	
c. (mÁ)(zí)(nÁ)(ʔí)(gán)		****!*	
d. ☺ (mÁz)(nÁʔ)(gán)		***	**

- Stress-before-deletion is impossible in Classic OT (Kager 1997, Blumenfeld 2006).
- Classic OT tries to make footing and syncope apply simultaneously.
- Unstressed vowel avoidance spurs FTBIN violations.
 - But there are many ways to foot a word into degenerate feet.

mAZINΛ?IGAN	*WEAKV	FTBIN	MAX-V
a. ↗ (mzín)(?í)(gán)		***	**
b. (mAZÍ)(nΛ?í)(gán)	**!	*	
c. (mÁ)(zÍ)(nÁ)(?í)(gán)		*****!	
d. ☺ (mÁZ)(nÁ?) (gán)		***	**

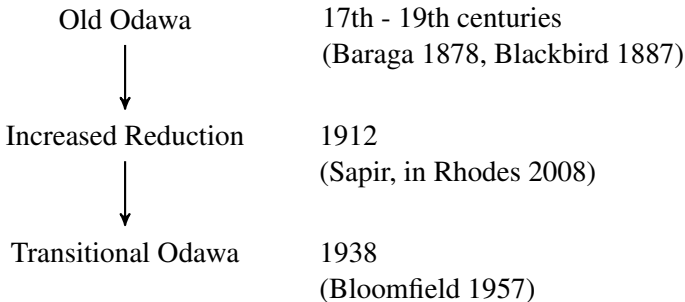
- In HS, (d) is not gradually derivable from an iambic parse.
- In HS, (c) may never be generated (McCarthy 2008:519, though Kimper 2011:444, McCarthy 2008:525).

Reduction → Deletion



- “The vowels are ...*never* silent” (Baraga 1878:4, *emph. orig.*).

Reduction → Deletion



- “The vowels are . . . *never* silent” (Baraga 1878:4, *emph. orig.*).
- “The reduced vowels are rapidly spoken and often whispered or entirely omitted” (Bloomfield 1957:5).

New Odawa

–1930s Children–

Transitional Lexicon

- Transitional Odawa had allomorphy in stems.

Transitional Lexicon

- Transitional Odawa had allomorphy in stems.

	Unprefixed	Prefixed	
a.	d_nǵíʃk_w-á:d	n_-dǵng_ʃkǵw-á:	kick
b.	d_gún_gé:	n_-dǵg_níǵé:	mix things
c.	b_zóǵé:ʃín	n_-bíz_gé:ʃín	stumble

New Lexicon

- New lexicon is massively leveled (Rhodes 1985a; 1985b).

New Lexicon

- New lexicon is massively leveled (Rhodes 1985a; 1985b).

- | | New Unprefixed | New Prefixed | |
|----|----------------|----------------|------------|
| a. | dngɪʃkw-a:-d | ndΛ-dngɪʃkw-a: | kick |
| b. | dgʊnge: | ndΛ-dgʊnge: | mix things |
| c. | bzʊge:ʃɪn | ndΛ-bzʊge:ʃɪn | stumble |

- | | T. Unprefixed | T. Prefixed | |
|----|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| a. | d_ɪngɪʃk_w-á:-d | n_-dÁng_ʃkÁw-á: | kick |
| b. | d_gʊn_gé: | n_-dÁg_nígé: | mix things |
| c. | b_zʊgé:ʃɪn | n_-bíz_gé:ʃɪn | stumble |

New Lexicon

- New lexicon is massively leveled (Rhodes 1985a; 1985b).

- | | New Unprefixed | New Prefixed | |
|----|----------------|----------------|------------|
| a. | dngɪʃkw-a:-d | ndΛ-dngɪʃkw-a: | kick |
| b. | dgʊnge: | ndΛ-dgʊnge: | mix things |
| c. | bzʊge:ʃɪn | ndΛ-bzʊge:ʃɪn | stumble |

- | | T. Unprefixed | T. Prefixed | |
|----|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| a. | d_ɲgɪʃk_w-á:-d | n_-dʌɲg_ʃkʌw-á: | kick |
| b. | d_gʊn_gé: | n_-dʌg_nígé: | mix things |
| c. | b_zʊgé:ʃɪn | n_-bíZ_gé:ʃɪn | stumble |

- ∴ New URs come from Transitional unprefixed forms (Bowers 2012).

New Prefixes

- New prefixes arose via reanalysis of Transitional Odawa vowel-initial words:
- ‘He hangs’ ‘I hang’

/Λgó:(d̥zín)/	/ni-Λgó:(d̥zín)/	UR
—	ni[d]Λgó:(d̥zín)	Hiatus Resolution
(Λgó:)(d̥zín)	(nidá)(gó:)(d̥zín)	Stress
(_gó:)(d̥zín)	(n.dá)(gó:)(d̥zín)	Syncope
[gó:(d̥zín)]	[ndágó:(d̥zín)]	SR

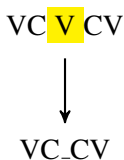
New Prefixes

- New prefixes arose via reanalysis of Transitional Odawa vowel-initial words:
- ‘He hangs’ ‘I hang’

/Λgɔ:dʒɪm/	/nɪ-Λgɔ:dʒɪm/	UR
—	nɪ[d]Λgɔ:dʒɪm	Hiatus Resolution
(Λgó:)(dʒín)	(nɪdÁ)(gó:)(dʒín)	Stress
(_gó:)(dʒín)	(n_dÁ)(gó:)(dʒín)	Syncope
[gó:dʒín]	[ndÁgó:dʒín]	SR
- A plausible analysis (repeatable for [ɪ, ʊ], see Bowers 2012; 2013):
- | | | |
|-----|---------|------------|
| ndΛ | gɔ:dʒɪm | ‘He hangs’ |
| | gɔ:dʒɪm | ‘I hang’ |

New Grammar

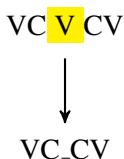
- New syncope is phonotactically controlled.
 - “Two-sided open syllable” (Kuroda 1967)



- Delete if the cluster is ok

New Grammar

- New syncope is phonotactically controlled.
 - “Two-sided open syllable” (Kuroda 1967)



- Delete if the cluster is ok
- No reference to stress is needed.

New Deletion Data

- a. mkɪzɪn mkɪz_n-ɔn shoe
- b. a:nɔk a:n_k-ɔg brown thrasher
- c. wa:gɔf wa:g_f-ɔg fox
- d. pwa:gɔn pwa:g_n-ɔg pipe

New Deletion Data

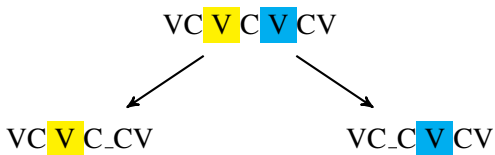
- a. mkizim mkiz_n-Λn shoe
- b. a:nΛk a:n_k-Λg brown thrasher
- c. wa:gʊf wa:g_f-Λg fox
- d. pwa:gΛn pwa:g_n-Λg pipe

- New syncope blocked elsewhere.

- a. mi:knʊd mi:knʊd-Λn pants
- b. mi:ʒmin mi:ʒmin-Λn acorns
- c. a:bd̂ʒitʃgΛn a:bd̂ʒitʃgΛn-Λn tool
- d. d̂ʒi:gdΛbgΛn d̂ʒi:gdΛbgΛn-Λn broom

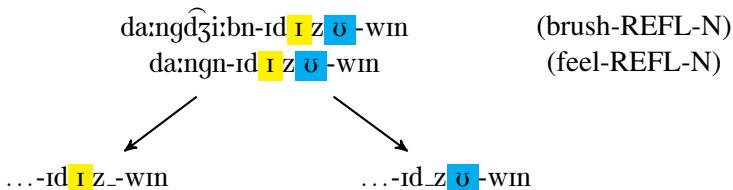
Variation Predicted

- Free variation if two vowels are in the deletion environment (Bowers 2012).



- *VC_C_CV

Variation Observed



- We don't see ...-ɪd_z_-wm
- Transitional Odawa did not have this variation.

Restructuring was Abrupt

- Speakers born in the 1930s created New Odawa (Piggott 1980:2, Rhodes 1985a; 1985b).
- Phonetic change culminated in Transitional Odawa around 1938 (Bloomfield 1957).

Restructuring was Abrupt

- Speakers born in the 1930s created New Odawa (Piggott 1980:2, Rhodes 1985a; 1985b).
- Phonetic change culminated in Transitional Odawa around 1938 (Bloomfield 1957).
- ∴ Conjecture: New Odawa was a response to Transitional Odawa.
 - Leveling to a single member of the paradigm,
 - Recut prefixes,
 - Development of phonotactically conditioned syncope.

Restructuring beyond Odawa

Old Irish

- Vowels deleted in left-to-right trochees (Thurneysen 1946, McManus 1983).
- ‘similar’ ‘neg-similar-pl’

/kosamil/	/e-kosamil-i/	UR
(kósa)(míl)	(éko)(sámi)(lí)	Stress
(kós_)(míl)	(ék_)(sám_)(lí)	Syncope
[kósmíl]	[éksámli]	SR

Old Irish

- Vowels deleted in left-to-right trochees (Thurneysen 1946, McManus 1983).
- ‘similar’ ‘neg-similar-pl’

/kosamil/	/e-kosamil-i/	UR
(kósa)(míl)	(éko)(sámi)(lí)	Stress
(kós_)(míl)	(ék_)(sám_)(lí)	Syncope
[kósmíl]	[éksámli]	SR
- Old Irish promptly restructured (Thurneysen 1946).
 - *(tím_)(θírext) → tim.θ_rext ‘service’

Old Irish

- Vowels deleted in left-to-right trochees (Thurneysen 1946, McManus 1983).
- ‘similar’ ‘neg-similar-pl’

/kosamil/	/e-kosamil-i/	UR
(kósa)(míl)	(éko)(sámi)(lí)	Stress
(kós_)(míl)	(ék_)(sám_)(lí)	Syncope
[kósmíl]	[éksámli]	SR
- Old Irish promptly restructured (Thurneysen 1946).
 - *(tím_)(θírext) → tim.θ_rext ‘service’
- Free variation observed:
 - tomon_tis ~ tom_nitis ‘that they would think’

Old Irish

- Vowels deleted in left-to-right trochees (Thurneysen 1946, McManus 1983).
- ‘similar’ ‘neg-similar-pl’

/kosamil/	/e-kosamil-i/	UR
(kósa)(míl)	(éko)(sámi)(lí)	Stress
(kós_)(míl)	(ék_)(sám_)(lí)	Syncope
[kósmíl]	[éksámli]	SR
- Old Irish promptly restructured (Thurneysen 1946).
 - *(tím_)(θírext) → tim.θ_rext ‘service’
- Free variation observed:
 - tomon_tis ~ tom_nitis ‘that they would think’
- “It is simply impossible for a language to have evolved as quickly as the evidence seems to imply” (Koch 1995).

Slavic - Havlík's Law

- Jers ([I, ʊ]) deleted in right-to-left trochees (V. Kiparsky 1979).
- ‘hermit-acc.sg’ ‘hermit-nom.sg’

/otʊfʲɪlɪtsʲ-a/	/otʊfʲɪlɪtsʲ-ɪ/	UR
(ótʊ)(fʲɪlɪ)(tsʲá)	(ó)(tófʲɪ)(lɪtsʲɪ)	Stress
(ót_)(fʲɪl_)(tsʲá)	(ó)(tófʲ_)(lɪtsʲ_)	Syncope
(ót)(fʲél)(tsʲá)	(ó)(tófʲ)(létsʲ)	Lowering
[ótʲéltsʲá]	[ótófʲlétsʲ]	SR

Slavic - Havlík's Law

- Multiple vowel/zero alternations are the hallmark of rhythmic syncope.
- “Multiple vowel/zero alternations were eliminated simultaneously with the jer-shift itself” (Isačenko 1970:96).
- Modern Russian “did not preserve *a single case* of multiple vowel/zero alternations” (but residues in prefixes, Isačenko 1970:122, emphasis original).
- Modern Russian jer deletion is cyclic and regulated by phonotactics (Gouskova 2012, Pesetsky 1979, Yearley 1995).

See Also ...

- Brittonic (Jackson 1953).
- Gallo-Romance (Pope 1952, Rickard 1989, Jacobs 2004).
- Mandaic (Malone 1997 Haberl 2009).
- Potawatomi (Hockett 1948:5).
- Unami (Goddard 1979; 1982).
- Kannada (?) (Bright ?1970)


Tonkawa - Recoverable Rhythm

- Vowels delete in left-to-right trochees (Hoijer 1933; 1946; 1949).
- But the preceding consonant became longer and syllabic.
- ‘I lick him’ ‘He licks me’

/netale-oʔs/	/ke-netale-oʔ/	UR
netal_oʔs	kenetal_oʔ	Hiatus Resolution
(néta)(lóʔs)	(kéne)(táloʔ)	Stress
(nétt_)(lóʔs)	(kénnt_)(táloʔ)	Syncope and Lengthening
[néttlólóʔs]	[kénntáloʔ]	SR
- Pass an underlying mora from a weak vowel to a consonant.


Tonkawa - Recoverable Rhythm

- This could be done in Classic OT.

kenetalo?	MAX- μ	*WEAKV	ID- μ
a.  (kénŋ)(tálo?)		*	*
b. (kéne)(tálo?)		**!	
c. (kén)(tálo?)	*!	*	

Tonkawa - Recoverable Rhythm

- This could be done in Classic OT.

kenetalo?	MAX- μ	*WEAKV	ID- μ
a.  (kénɲ)(tálo?)		*	*
b. (kéne)(tálo?)		**!	
c. (kén)(tálo?)	*!	*	

- Recoverable metrical structure → no restructuring.
- Gradient syncope is also stable (Munsee: Goddard 1979; 1982, Macushi: Hawkins 1950, Carson 1982, Abbott 1991).
- Optional syncope is also stable (Classical Latin: Jacobs 2004, Uspanteko: Bennett and Henderson 2013).

Aguaruna

Aguaruna - Description

- Descriptive analysis (Payne 1990):
 - “Odd-numbered” vowels delete.
 - Rhythmic syncope in left-to-right iambs?
 - Vowels do not delete in first syllable.
 - Vowels always delete when word-final.
- Cast as synchronic rhythmic syncope in McCarthy (2008).

Aguaruna - Data

‘clay.pot’	‘clay.pot-pos-2*’	‘clay.pot-pos-2-acc’	
/itʃinaka/	/itʃinaka-ŋu-mi/	/itʃinaka-ŋu-mi-na/	UR
(itʃí)(náka)	(itʃí)(naká)(ŋúmi)	(itʃí)(naká)(ŋumí)na	Stress
(itʃí)(nák_)	(itʃí)(n_ká)(ŋúm_)	(itʃí)(n_ká)(ŋ_mí)n_	Syncope
itʃinák_	itʃin_kanum_	itʃin_kan_min_	SR

Aguaruna - Alternatives

- No prefixed forms to show the “vowel ripple”.
- Alternations are concentrated in stacked monosyllabic suffixes.
- This could be cyclic VCVCV → VC_CV.

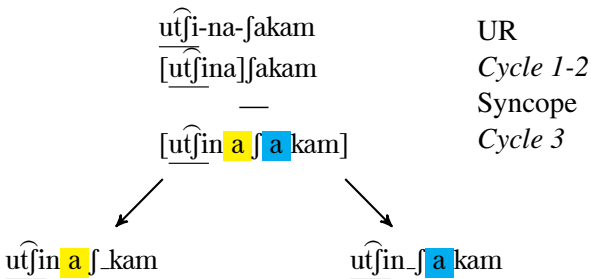
Aguaruna - Cyclicity

/itʃinaka-ŋu-mi-na/	UR	‘clay pot-pos-2-acc’
[itʃin a ka]ŋumina	<i>Cycle 1</i>	
[itʃin _ ka]ŋumina	Syncope	
[itʃinkaŋu]mina	<i>Cycle 2</i>	
—	Syncope	
[itʃinkaŋ u mi]na	<i>Cycle 3</i>	
[itʃinkaŋ _ mi]na	Syncope	
[itʃinkaŋmina]	<i>Cycle 4</i>	
[itʃinkaŋmin_]	Apocope	
—	Syncope	
itʃin kaŋ min_	SR	(itʃi)(n_ká)(ŋ_mí)n_

- When affixes are short, we mimic iambic syncope.

Aguaruna - Variation

- But when affixes are long, free variation results, as observed in ‘to the child also’.



Aguaruna - Problems

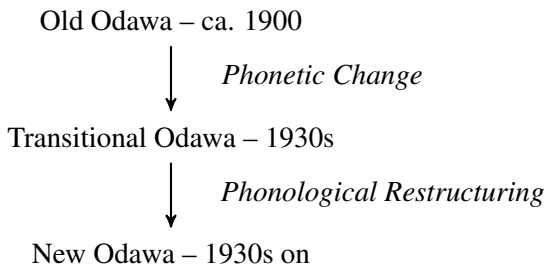
- A recent dictionary (Deicat 1996) is full of surprises.
- Words with no deletion:
 - $\text{dikapamaint}\hat{\text{f}}\text{u}$ ‘uncountable’ $*(\text{diká})(\text{p_máint}\hat{\text{f}})_$
 - apapahua ‘bird species’ $*(\text{apá})(\text{p_húa})$
- Words with deletion in “even” positions:
 - $\text{akat}\hat{\text{f}}\text{um}\underline{\text{t}}\text{ai}$ ‘belt’ $*(\text{aká})(\text{t}\hat{\text{f}}_má)(\text{tái})$
 - $\text{nahaimi}\underline{\text{k}}\text{at}$ ‘condemn’ $*(\text{nahái})(\text{m_t}\acute{\text{V}})(\text{kát})$
- Words with deletion of peninitial vowels:
 - $\text{i}\underline{\text{f}}\text{pi}\eta$ ‘tree species’ $*(\text{i}\acute{\text{f}}\acute{\text{V}})(\text{pí}\eta)$
 - $\text{ju}\underline{\text{f}}\text{min}$ ‘diver’ $*(\text{ju}\acute{\text{f}}\acute{\text{V}})(\text{mín})$

Aguaruna - Problems

- A recent dictionary (Deicat 1996) is full of surprises.
- Words with no deletion:
 - dikapamaint̃ju ‘uncountable’ *(diká)(p_máint̃j)_
 - apapahua ‘bird species’ *(apá)(p_húa)
- Words with deletion in “even” positions:
 - akat̃jumtai ‘belt’ *(aká)(t̃j_má)(tái)
 - nahaimit̃kat ‘condemn’ *(nahái)(m_t̃V)(kát)
- Words with deletion of peninitial vowels:
 - iʃp̃inj ‘tree species’ *(iʃṼ)(p̃inj)
 - juʃm̃in ‘diver’ *(juʃṼ)(m̃in)
- Approximately one word does not conform for every five words that do.

Implications and Conclusion

Summary



Discussion

- If a theory permits a phonological pattern,
- When phonetic change sets it up as the unique analysis,
- The phonetic pattern should be faithfully phonologized (Kiparsky 1995).

Discussion

- If a theory permits a phonological pattern,
- When phonetic change sets it up as the unique analysis,
- The phonetic pattern should be faithfully phonologized (Kiparsky 1995).
- Harmonic Serialism generates rhythmic syncope.
- The observed rapid changes thus violate our expectation.

Discussion

- If a theory permits a phonological pattern,
- When phonetic change sets it up as the unique analysis,
- The phonetic pattern should be faithfully phonologized (Kiparsky 1995).
- Harmonic Serialism generates rhythmic syncope.
- The observed rapid changes thus violate our expectation.
- Maybe there is something wrong with the learners?

Learning - HS

- A learner with HS must be stopped from the right analysis.
- The right analysis = correct URs and correct grammar.
- Nothing particularly marked about the grammar.
- Perhaps problem with learners is that they are bad at UR discovery.

Learning - HS

- A learner with HS must be stopped from the right analysis.
- The right analysis = correct URs and correct grammar.
- Nothing particularly marked about the grammar.
- Perhaps problem with learners is that they are bad at UR discovery.
- I.e. learners could have phonologized Transitional Odawa.
- They just had the wrong URs.
- So they were forced to New Odawa.

Abstract URs

- To phonologize Transitional Odawa, URs need all the vowels.
 - But any one surface form only has a subset of vowels.
- Learners would have to build URs from several surface forms.

	m	Λ	k	I	z	ɪ	n	UR
	m		k	I	z	ɪ	n	SR 1
n-	m	Λ	k		z	ɪ	n	SR 2

- In some theories, URs are identical to surface forms.
(Albright 2002; 2010, Pater, Staubs, Jesney, Smith 2012).
- This would explain the leveling to unprefixing forms.
 - Unprefixing forms were selected as the URs.

Abstract URs Motivated

- Over 400 words in Rhodes (1985a) need abstract URs.

Unsuffixed

Suffixed

nd Λ -d \hat{z} e:p \underline{i} z

d \hat{z} e:pzi-d

/d \hat{z} e:pizi/

be lively

nd Λ -bi:ndge:b \underline{i} z

bi:ndge:bz \bar{u} -d

/bi:ndge:bizi/

zip inside

nd Λ -bk \bar{u} d $\underline{\Lambda}$ b

bk \bar{u} dbi-d

/bk \bar{u} d Λ bi/

perch

nd Λ -nd \hat{z} im $\underline{\Lambda}$ z

nd \hat{z} imz \bar{u} -d

/nd \hat{z} im Λ z \bar{u} /

dispute

- Final vowels are unpredictable.
 - Must be in URs.
- Yet the UR is never fully faithfully realized.

Failing Correctly

- HS-learner must permit abstract URs, but fail to get right ones.
 - With right URs, ranking for rhythmic syncope is inevitable.
 - Thoughts invited on how to ensure failure here!

Failing Correctly

- HS-learner must permit abstract URs, but fail to get right ones.
 - With right URs, ranking for rhythmic syncope is inevitable.
 - Thoughts invited on how to ensure failure here!
- Abstraction and failure can be done with parallel OT.
- Learner with parallel OT cannot represent rhythmic syncope.
 - No need to stop short of right UR-grammar combination.
 - Let's look at how the URs might be learned to match the observed changes.

Conditions for Abstract URs

Unaffixed

ndΛ-d̂ʒe:pɪz

ndΛ-bi:ndge:bɪz

ndΛ-bkʊdΛb

ndΛ-nd̂ʒimΛz

Suffixed

d̂ʒe:pɪzɪ-d

bi:ndge:bzʊ-d

bkʊdbɪ-d

nd̂ʒimzʊ-d

/d̂ʒe:pɪzɪ/

/bi:ndge:bɪzɪ/

/bkʊdΛbɪ/

/nd̂ʒimΛzʊ/

be lively

zip inside

perch

dispute

- Abstract URs appear where apocope and new syncope interact.

‘I am lively’

/ndΛ-d̂ʒe:pɪzɪ/

ndΛd̂ʒe:pɪz_

—

[ndΛd̂ʒe:pɪz]

‘If he is lively’

/d̂ʒe:pɪzɪ-d/

—

d̂ʒe:p_zɪd

[d̂ʒe:pɪzɪd]

UR

Apocope

Syncope

SR

Abstract Lexicon with OT

- Assume apocope and new syncope.
- Assume learners decided unprefixing forms must be generated.

	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p	I	z	I	
							New Odawa UR
	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p		z	I	d T. Odawa SR
ndo:	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p	I	z		T. Odawa SR

- Penult vowels never hurt generation of unprefixing forms.

✓ / $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I zI-d/ → $\widehat{d}z$ e:pzI-d

- And they helped generation of prefixed forms.

✓ /ndΛ- $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I zI/ → ndΛ- $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I z

- Abstract UR is good.

Abstract Lexicon with OT

- Assume apocope and new syncope.
- Assume learners decided unprefixing forms must be generated.

	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p	I	z	I	
							New Odawa UR
	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p		z	I	d T. Odawa SR
ndo:	$\widehat{d}z$	e:	p	I	z		T. Odawa SR

- Penult vowels never hurt generation of unprefixing forms.

✓ / $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I zI-d/ → $\widehat{d}z$ e:pzI-d

- And they helped generation of prefixed forms.

✓ /ndΛ- $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I zI/ → ndΛ- $\widehat{d}z$ e:p I z

- Abstract UR is good.
- Learners took vowels from Transitional prefixed forms when they didn't hurt generation of unprefixing forms.*

Concrete Lexicon with OT

- In all other environments, vowels from prefixed forms hurt generation of unprefixed forms.

	m	Λ	k	i	z	i	n	UR
	m		k	i	z	i	n	SR 1
n-	m	Λ	k		z	i	n	SR 2

- The abstract UR:

X /mΛkɪzɪn/ → mΛk.zɪn

- The identity UR:

✓ /mkɪzɪn/ ⇒ mkɪzɪn

- Identity UR is good.

Summary of OT Learning

- Learners prioritized generating unprefixing forms.
- They had a terrible grammar.
 - All it could do was apocope and phonotactic syncope.
- To always generate unprefixing forms, they had to change the lexicon.
 - Threw out nearly all vowels present only in prefixed forms.
 - Hence the massive leveling of alternations.

Summary of OT Learning

- Learners prioritized generating unprefixing forms.
- They had a terrible grammar.
 - All it could do was apocope and phonotactic syncope.
- To always generate unprefixing forms, they had to change the lexicon.
 - Threw out nearly all vowels present only in prefixed forms.
 - Hence the massive leveling of alternations.
- The only thing wrong with learners is that they use OT.

Conclusion

- Learners appear to reject rhythmic syncope systems.
- Theories that can generate rhythmic syncope need to be restrained.

Conclusion

- Learners appear to reject rhythmic syncope systems.
- Theories that can generate rhythmic syncope need to be restrained.
- When documenting a synchronic phenomenon, it is crucial to consider diachrony.
 - Theories of competence/learning can be tested against historical facts.

References I

- Abbott, M. (1991). Macushi. In D. Derbyshire and G. Pullum (Eds.), Handbook of Amazonian Languages, Volume 3, pp. 23–160. Mouton de Gruyter.
- Albright, A. (2002). The Identification of Bases in Morphological Paradigms. Ph. D. thesis, University of California, Los Angeles.
- Albright, A. (2010). Base-driven leveling in Yiddish verb paradigms. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 28, 475–537.
- Baraga, F. (1850 [1878]). A Theoretical and Practical Grammar of the Otchipwe Language (Second ed.). Beauchemin and Valois.
- Bennett, R. and R. Henderson (2013). Accent in Uspanteko. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 31, 589–645.
- Blackbird, A. J. (1887). History of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan; A Grammar of their Language and Personal and Family History of the Author. Ypsilantian Job Printing House.
- Bloomfield, L. (1957). Eastern Ojibwa: Grammatical Sketch, Texts and Word List. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

References II

- Blumenfeld, L. (2006). Constraints on Phonological Interactions. Ph. D. thesis, Stanford.
- Bowers, D. (2012). Phonological restructuring in Odawa. Master's thesis, University of California, Los Angeles.
- Bowers, D. (2013). New Odawa prefix grammar. In M. Macaulay and R. Valentine (Eds.), To appear in Algonquian Conference 44. SUNY Press.
- Brame, M. (1974). The cycle in phonology: Stress in Palestinian, Maltese, and Spanish. Linguistic Inquiry 5(1), 39–60.
- Bright, W. (1970). Phonological rules in literary and colloquial Kannada. Journal of the American Oriental Society 90(1), 140–144.
- Carson, N. (1982). Phonology and Morphosyntax of Macushi (Carib). Ph. D. thesis, University of Kansas.
- Deicat, G. W. (1996). Diccionario Aguaruna-Castellano Castellano-Aguaruna, Volume 39 of Serie Lingüística Peruana. Lima, Peru: Instituto Lingüístico de Verano.
- Goddard, I. (1979). Comparative Algonquian. In L. Campbell and M. Mithun (Eds.), The Languages of Native America, pp. 70–132. University of Texas Press.

References III

- Goddard, I. (1982). The historical phonology of Munsee. International Journal of American Linguistics 48(1), 16–48.
- Gouskova, M. (2012). Unexceptional segments. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 30(1), 79–133.
- Häberl, C. G. (2009). The Neo-Mandaic Dialect of Khorramshahr. Harrassowitz Verlag.
- Hawkins, W. N. (1950). Patterns of vowel loss in Macushi (Carib). International Journal of American Linguistics 16(2), 87–90.
- Hockett, C. (1948). Potawatomi I: Phonemics, morphophonemics and morphological survey. International Journal of American Linguistics 14(1), 1–10.
- Hojjer, H. (1933). Tonkawa: An Indian Language of Texas, Volume 3 of Handbook of American Indian Languages. Columbia University Press.
- Hojjer, H. (1946). Tonkawa: An Indian language of Texas. In C. Osgood (Ed.), Linguistic Structures of Native America, Volume 6 of Publications in Anthropology. Viking Fund.

References IV

- Hoijer, H. (1949). An Analytical Dictionary of the Tonkawa Language, Volume 5 of University of California Publications in Linguistics. University of California Press.
- Isačenko, A. (1970). East Slavic morphophonemics and the treatment of the jers in Russian: A revision of Havlík's law. International Journal of Slavic Linguistics and Poetics 13, 73–124.
- Jackson, K. (1953). Language and History in Early Britain: A Chronological Survey of the Brittonic Languages First to Twelfth Century A.D. Edinburgh University Press.
- Jacobs, H. (2004). Rhythmic vowel deletion in OT: Syncope in Latin. Probus 16, 63–90.
- Kager, R. (1997). Rhythmic vowel deletion in Optimality Theory. In I. Roca (Ed.), Derivations and Constraints in Phonology, pp. 463–499. Oxford University Press.
- Kaye, J. (1973). Odawa stress and related phenomena. In Odawa Language Project: Second Report. University of Toronto.
- Kaye, J. (1974). Opacity and recoverability in phonology. Canadian Journal of Linguistics 19(2), 134–149.

References V

- Kenstowicz, M. and K. Abdul-Karim (1980). Cyclic stress in levantine arabic. In M. Kenstowicz (Ed.), Studies in the Linguistic Sciences, Volume 10, pp. 55–76. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- Kimper, W. (2011). Locality and globality in phonological variation. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 29, 423–465.
- Kiparsky, P. (1995). The phonological basis of sound change. In J. Goldsmith (Ed.), The Handbook of Phonological Theory. Blackwell.
- Kiparsky, P. (2000). Opacity and cyclicity. The Linguistic Review 17, 351–367.
- Kiparsky, V. (1979). Russian Historical Grammar. Ardis.
- Koch, J. (1995). The conversion and the transition from Primitive to Old Irish. Emania: Bulletin of the Navan Research Group 13, 39–50.
- Kuroda, S.-Y. (1967). Yawelmani Phonology. MIT Press.
- Malone, J. (1997). Modern and classical Mandaic phonology. In A. S. Kaye (Ed.), Phonologies of Asia and Africa, Volume 1, Chapter 10, pp. 141–159. Eisenbrauns.
- McCarthy, J. (2008). The serial interaction of stress and syncope. Natural Language and Linguistic Theory 26, 499–546.

References VI

- McManus, D. (1983). A chronology of the Latin loan-words in Early Irish. Ériu 34, 21–71.
- Pater, J., R. Staubs, K. Jesney, and B. Smith (2012). Learning probabilities over underlying representations. In Proceedings of the 12th Meeting of the ACL-SIGMORPHON: Computational Research in Phonetics, Phonology and Morphology.
- Payne, D. (1990). Accent in Aguaruna. In D. Payne (Ed.), Amazonian Linguistics: Studies in Lowland South America, pp. 161–184. University of Texas Press.
- Pesetsky, D. (1979, March). Russian morphology and lexical theory. M.S. MIT.
- Piggott, G. L. (1974 [1980]). Aspects of Odawa Morphophonemics. Garland.
- Piggott, G. L. (1983). Extrametricality and Ojibwa stress. In McGill Working Papers in Linguistics, Volume 1, pp. 80–118. McGill University.
- Pope, M. (1952). From Latin to Modern French with Especial Consideration of Anglo-Norman Phonology and Morphology (2 ed.). University of Manchester Press.
- Rhodes, R. (1985a). Eastern Ojibwa-Chippewa-Ottawa Dictionary. Mouton.

References VII

- Rhodes, R. (1985b). Lexicography and Ojibwa Vowel Deletion. The Canadian Journal of Linguistics 30(4), 453–471.
- Rhodes, R. (2008, October). Appendix to Algonquian trade languages. Presented at 40th Algonquian Conference.
- Rickard, P. (1989). A History of the French Language (2 ed.). Unwin Hyman.
- Thurneysen, R. (1946). Grammar of Old Irish. The Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies.
- Yearley, J. (1995). Jer vowels in Russian. In J. Beckman, L. W. Dickey, and S. Urbanczyk (Eds.), Papers in Optimality Theory II (University of Massachusetts Occasional Papers in Linguistics), pp. 533–571. GLSA Publications.

Origin of New Syncope

- New Odawa matches Old Odawa here.

(1)	‘shoe’	‘shoes’	
	/mΛkizim/	/mΛkizim-Λn/	UR
	(mΛ'ki)(zín)	(mΛ'ki)(zimÁn)	Stress
	(m_ 'ki)(zín)	(m_ 'ki)(z_ nÁn)	Syncope
	[m'kizín]	[m'kiznÁn]	SR
(2)	‘tool’	‘tools’	
	/a:bΛd̥ʒitʃigΛn/	/a:bΛd̥ʒitʃigΛn-Λn/	UR
	('a:)(bΛ'd̥ʒi)(tʃigÁn)	('a:)(bΛ'd̥ʒi)(tʃigÁ)(nÁn)	Stress
	('a:)(b_ 'd̥ʒi)(tʃ_ gÁn)	('a:)(b_ 'd̥ʒi)(tʃ_ gÁ)(nÁn)	Syncope
	['a:b'd̥ʒitʃ'gΛn]	['a:b'd̥ʒitʃ'gΛnÁn]	SR

Newness of New Syncope

- Cluster simplification feeds novel deletions.
 - Free variation when two vowels in the two sided open syllable.
 - Optional deletion with new prefixes.
- ∴ New Odawa syncope is indeed new.

Syncope has Spread

- Vowels that never deleted in Transitional Odawa delete in New Odawa.
- ‘If he misses him’ ‘Drums’

/me:dʌs I n-a:-d/	/de:we:ʔɪg ʌ n-ʌn/	UR
(mé:)(dʌsí)(ná:d)	(dé:)(wé:)(ʔɪgʌ)(nʌn)	Stress
(mé:)(d_sí)(ná:d)	(dé:)(wé:)(ʔ_gʌ)(nʌn)	Syncope
[mé:ds í ná:d]	[dé:wé:ʔg ʌ nʌn]	SR
- The [ds] and [ʔg] clusters are now simplified to [s] and [g].
- Deletion observed: *me:s_n-a:* ‘miss him’ and *de:we:g_n-ʌn* ‘drums’.

Optional at Left Edge

- $nd\Lambda-$ + CVCV: = $nd\Lambda C$ **V** CV:
- **V** deletes optionally.

	Non-deletion	Deletion	Old Form
a.	$nd\Lambda-3$ I da:ba:n-a:	$nd\Lambda-3_da:ba:n-a:$	$n_-[d]I3_da:ba:n-a:$
b.	$nd\Lambda-n$ I ze:kwe:	$nd\Lambda-n_ze:kwe:$	$n_-[d]m_ze:kwe:$
c.	$gdo:k$ \Lambda wa:te:fɪm	$gdo:k_wa:te:fɪm$	$g_-[d]\Lambda k_wa:te:fɪm$
	Glosses: 'I drag him', 'I cook so', 'you cast a shadow'		

What About Arabic?

- Palestinian Arabic has an opaque stress-syncope interaction (Brame 1974, Kenstowicz 1980, Kiparsky 2000)
- /fihim-na/ /fihim-∅-na/ UR
 [fihímna] [fíhim]na Stress (stem)
 — [fihímna] Stress (word)
 f_hímna — Syncope (word)
 [fhímna] [fihímna] SR
- But this is due to phonology-morphology interface. And ...
- There is surface justification for lost stress (*fíhim-∅* ‘he understood’)