24.961 Features: 2 Organization below the Root Node

[1]. Research from 1980's by Clements, Halle, and others suggested that features are organized into a hierarchy. This general line of study was called Feature Geometry.



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[2] root node: gross sound class: [consonantal], [sonorant]

cavity: pharyngeal, supralaryngeal

articulators: Labial, Dorsal, Coronal; Soft Palate, Tongue Root, Glottal (Halle 1982)

terminal features: [nasal], [voice], [anterior], [back], etc.

[3] stricture features of [continuant], [strident], and [lateral] are problematic;

- [lateral] and [strident] are almost exclusively dependents of the Coronal articulator
- most sounds have multiple articulators: e.g. [m]: Labial, Soft-Palate, Glottal
- stricture (manner) features like [continuant] must be linked to the major articulator for proper phonetic interpretation
- Halle-Sagey arrow was a device that assigned manner features to a particular articulator

[4] evidence for the hierarchy

- OCP (Obligatory Contour Principle: Leben 1973)
- Bans two successive segments that are "identical"
- Arabic root constraints defined over major articulators (McCarthy 1991): labial, coronal obstruent, coronal sonorant, dorsal, guttural
- articulators are located on separate tiers; [m b t] and [m t b] both violate OCP and so in order to fall under the *X-X rubric, the [m] must see past the [t] to be penalized by the [b]

| a. | labials | [f,b,m] |
|----|--------------------|----------------------------------------|
| b. | coronal sonorants | [l,r,n] |
| c. | coronal stops | [t,d,T,D] |
| d. | coronal fricatives | $[\theta, \delta, s, z, S, Z, \delta]$ |
| e. | dorsals | [g,k,q] |
| f. | gutturals | [x,y,h,S,h,?] |

adjacent consonants (C1 C2 and C2 C3) in triliteral C1 C2 C3 roots

| | a | b | с | d | e | f |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| a | 0 | 210 | 125 | 138 | 82 | 151 |
| b | 196 | 15 | 122 | 161 | 165 | 208 |
| с | 118 | 153 | 7 | 26 | 29 | 105 |
| d | 196 | 211 | 58 | 5 | 89 | 168 |
| e | 118 | 167 | 66 | 105 | 1 | 79 |
| f | 211 | 252 | 148 | 182 | 81 | 11 |
| | | | | | | |

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[5] assimilation as spreading

- Single terminal feature: voicing in cat[s] vs. dog[z]; nasal in Korean /kuk-min/ > kuŋmin '(Korean) people',
- Complete assimilation: last time Tigrinya t-, Berber n-
- Intermediate node (Clements 1985)

English coronal stops and nasal assimilate the minor place features of following coronal

| | [t] | [d] | [n] | |
|---|-------------|------------|--------|--------------------|
| θ | eighth | hundredth | tenth | [+distrib, +anter] |
| š | eight shoes | eight gems | insure | [+distrib, -anter] |
| r | tree | dream | enroll | [-distrib, -anter] |
| S | hats | reads | ensue | [-distrib, +anter] |

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| Anc. Gk: assimilation of [voice] and [spread gl] |] dependents of Glottal articulator |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

| b. | trīb-ō | tetrij | p-tai | 'rub' |
|--------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------|
| | grap ^h -ō | gegra | ap-tai | 'write |
| | pemp-ō | ερεπ | np ^h -t ^h ēn | 'send |
| | trīb-ō | etrīp | ^h -t ^h ēn | 'rub' |
| | klept-ō | kleb- | dēn | 'steal |
| | grap ^h -ō | grab | -dēn | •write |
| root | [– so | onor] | [-sonor] | |
| cavity | Phary | ngeal | Pharyngeal | |

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[6] reduction as elimination of parts of tree

Glottal

articulator

• s > h; Caribbean Spanish: me[h], mes-e[h] 'month'

Glottal

• t > ?; English glottaling of t^2

| root | | [+cons] | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|--|--|--|
| stricture cavity | [-contin] | Oral | Pharyngeal | | | |
| articulator | | *Coronal | Glottal | | | |
| terminal | | [+anter] | [+constr gl] | | | |

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[7]. problems: features that spread together might not form a constituent in the articulator model

Odden 1991 Mari (Eastern Cheremis)

| | i | ü | e | ö | а | ə | 0 | u |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| high | + | + | - | - | - | - | - | + |
| low | - | - | - | - | + | - | - | - |
| back | - | - | - | - | + | + | + | + |
| round | - | + | - | + | - | - | + | + |

- back and round spread but not height
- acoustically based: color features of [back] and [round] reflected in F2 (second formant)

| üp-šö | his hair | surt-šo | his house | kit-še | his l | hand |
|--------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------------|-------|-----------|
| šös-žö | his milk | boz-šo | his wagon | šužar-že his sister | | sister |
| | | | | bokten-ž | e | beside it |

[8] spreading details

- Oral place nodes Labial, Coronal, Dorsal look past one another in Arabic OCP and hence are located on different tiers
- Padgett's (1991) Generalization: stricture features of [±cons] and [±contin] always spread along with place features in place assimilation: ft > tt, *st; nw > ww, *mw
- Stricture features do not spread by themselves: ps -/-> fs;
- Sudanese Arabic (Hamid 1984)

| (1) | kitáab 'book' | bít 'daughter' | sámak 'fish' |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | kitáa[f] Fáthi | bí[t] Fáthi | sáma[k] Fáthi |
| | kitáa[p] Samíir | bí[s] Samíir | sáma[k] Samíir |
| | kitáa[p] Šaríif | bí[š] Šaríif | sáma[k] Šaríif |
| | kitáa[p] Xáalid | bí[t] Xáalid | sáma[x] Xáalid |
| | kitáa[p] Hásan | bí[t] Hásan | sáma[k] Hásan |

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$$[t]-[\int] -> \int -\int , *t \int -\int$$

[9] From the OT perspective, much of the work performed by feature classes and nodes is taken over by markedness constraints

Padgett (1994, 2002) Turkish vowel harmony

| (18) | a. | i ü | шu | | | i | e | ü | Ö | ш | u | 0 | a |
|------|----|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|------|-----------------|--------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | еö | ao | high | | + | - | + | - | + | + | - | - |
| | | | | back | | - | - | - | - | + | + | + | + |
| | | | | roune | d | - | - | + | + | - | + | + | - |
| | b. | <u>noun</u> dal kol | <u>pl.</u> dal-lar kol-lar | acc. dal-uu kol-u | ʻt ʻa | oran | ich | , , | | | | | |
| | | kul yel | kul-lar yel-ler | kul-u yel-i | 's 'v | lav | gnt e' d' | er | | | | | |
| | | göl diš | göl-ler diš-ler | göl-ü diš-i | 's 't | ea' | h' | | | | | | |
| | | gül | gül-ler | gül-ü | 'r | ose | ' | | | | | | |

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- high vowels assimilate [round] and [back]; nonhigh vowels only [back]
- traditionally two separate rules: palatal and labial harmony
- but most Turkic lgs have reflexes of both, suggesting a single process
- feature classes are indicated by co-indexing: [back]_c and [round]_c

| (16) | |
|------|--|
|------|--|

| UR: /son-I/ | Spread(Color) | Ident |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| a. ${[son-]_{+B}}_{+R}$ -I | *!* | |
| b. $\mathbb{F}\left\{\left[\operatorname{son-u}\right]_{+B}\right\}_{+R}$ | | ** |
| c. $[\{\text{son-}\}_{+R}\{\dot{i}\}_{-R}]_{+B}$ | *!* | ** |
| d. ${[son-]_{+B}[\ddot{u}]_{-B}}_{+R}$ | *!* | ** |
| e. $[\{\text{son-}\}_{+R}]_{+B} [\{\dot{i}\}_{-R}]_{+B}$ | *!*** | ** |

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• spread of color features but dominated by markedness constraint *[-high, +round]

| UR: /son-lAr/ | *[+rnd, -hi] | Spread(Color) | Ident |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------|
| a. ${[son-lor]_{+B}}_{+R}$ | **! | | ** |
| b. $\mathbb{F} [\{ \text{son-} \}_{+R} \{ \text{lar} \}_{-R}]_{+B}$ | * | ** | ** |
| c. $\{[\text{son-}]_{+B}[[\text{lör}]_{-B}\}_{+R}$ | **! | ** | ** |
| d. $[{son-}_{+R}]_{+B} [{lar}_{-R}]_{+B}$ | * | ***!* | ** |

positional faithfulness for root

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(24)

| UR: /pul-lAr-In/ | Ident _{Rt} | *[+rnd, -hi] | Spread(Color) | Ident |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------|-------|
| a. ${[pul-lor-un]_{+B}}_{+R}$ | | *! | | **** |
| b. $\mathbb{G}\left[\left\{\text{pul-}\right\}_{+R}\left\{\text{lar-in}\right\}_{-R}\right]_{+B}$ | | | *** | **** |
| c. $[{pul-}_{+R}{lar-}_{-R}{un}_{+R}]_{+B}$ | | | ****!** | |
| d. ${[pil-lar-in]_{+B}}_{-R}$ | *! | | | **** |

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[10] nasal-fricative sequence (Padgett 2002)

• In many languages nasals assimilate in place to a following stop. But before a fricative they may delete (Lithuanian), harden the fricative to a stop (Kpelle), lenite the nasal to a nasalized continuant (Polish), or fail to assimilate (English). The following typology emerges:

| /san-buris/ | Agree-Place | *[+nasal,+contin] | Ident-cont | Max-Nasal |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|-----------|
| > samburis | | | | |
| /san-ska/ | | | | |
| > sa:-ska | | | | * |
| saš-ska | | *! | | |
| sanska | *! | | | |
| santska | | | *! | |

sa[ŋ]-kaba

sa:-skambis, sa:-šlavos

| Lithuanian: *[+nasal, | + contin] ¹ , Ide | ent-[contin], Agr | ee-Place » Max-Nasal |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|

sa[n]-taka

Kpelle: *[+nasal,+contin], Agree-Place, Max-Nasal, » Ident-[contin]

| /N-polu/ | mbolu |
|----------|----------------|
| /N-tia/ | ndia |
| /Nkɔɔ/ | ŋkəə |
| /N-fela/ | mvela |
| /N-sua/ | n d3 ua |

sa[m]-buris

| /N-sua/ | Agree-Place | *[+nasal,+contin] | Max-Nasal | Ident-[contin] |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|
| > n dʒ ua | | | | * |
| nŝua | | *! | | |
| sua | | | *! | |

Polish: Agree-Place, Max-Nasal, Ident-[contin] » *[+nasal,+contin]

| ząb | [zamp] | tooth |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| węgiel | [veŋg'el] | coal |
| mąż | [moŵ∫] | husband |
| węch | [veŵx] | smell |

| /mon∫/ | Ident-[cont] | Max-nasal | *[+nasal,+contin] |
|--------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|
| > moŵ∫ | | | * |
| mo∫ | | *! | |
| mont∫ | *! | | |

¹ Nasal fricatives are cross-linguistically marked since significant oral airflow is needed to produce a (strident) fricative but nasal sounds shunt air into the nasal cavity.

English: *[+nasal, + contin], Max-Nasal, Ident-[contin] » Agree-Place

| /in-valid/ | Ident-[cont] | Max-nasal | *[+nasal,+contin] | Agree-Place |
|------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|
| > invalid | | | | * |
| imbalid | *! | | | |
| ivalid | | *! | | |
| iŵvalid | | | *! | |

in-ert, im-possible, im-bue, in-finite, in-valid

[11] timing within the segment

- In the classic Jakobsonian feature matrix all features in the segment are simultaneous
- But order is needed for affricates and prenasalized stops while in labio-velars like kp the two constrictions are simultaneous; a given instance of time cannot be both [+F] and [-F] but two simultaneous closures by different articulators are possible

[12] Steriade (1993) represents stops and affricates as having two phases: closure followed by release

| $A_0 = [A_f = [A_{max} = A_{max} = [A_{max} = A_{max} = $ | – contin] + contin, – + contin, + | - sonor] - sonor] | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A ₀ A _{max} stop | A ₀ A _f affricate | A _f fricative | A _{max} approximant | A ₀ unreleased stop |
| [t] | [t ^s] | [s] | [1] | [t ^o] |

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- Release phase is attachment site for laryngeal features like [spread gl] and [constr gl]
- Loss of release entails loss of these features: cf. Korean pat^h-il 'field, acc', pat' citation; nacil [d^z] 'day, acc., nat' citation
- The left face of an affricate behaves like a stop while right-face behaves like a fricative: cf.
 English in-justice bush-iz [ʃɪz] crutch-iz [t^fız]

Yucatec Mayan

 $/k + k / -> [h + k], /t + t^{j} / -> [h + t^{j}], /t^{s} + t / -> [s + t], [t^{j} + t / -> [j + t]$

[13] Articulatory Phonology (Browman & Goldstein 1989, Gafos 2002)

- a speech sound involves a constriction in the vocal tract
- Gesture is a representation of the constriction in terms of three simultaneous specifications

Active articulator: tongue tip, lips, tongue dorsum, etc Constriction site: dental, alveolar, postalveolar, etc Constriction degree: max, min, etc.

• Pairs of adjacent gestures can stand in several degrees of overlap:



• A precise characterization of the extent of overlap can be given if each constriction has a specified time course, and temporal landmarks: onset, target attainment point, release, offset.



The extent of overlap is determined by the alignment of landmarks of one gesture to landmarks of another. Below: glottal abduction's target aligned to the release of oral closure, as in p^h.



- given that a gesture is single entity, assimilation involves extending the entire unit in time relative to an adjacent gesture
- the simultaneous spread of place and constriction stipulated in Padgett's Generalization then follows necessarily
- also the fact that stricture features never spread independent of place also follows: xt -/-> kt; we don't find xt > kt; but there can be dissimilation for stricture features as in tt > st
- Vowel copy within the same syllable has been represented as the "unveiling" of a vocalic articulation that occurs simultaneously with the onset consonant

Dorsey's Law in Winnebago CRVC > CVRVC

∫-wa-ʒok > ∫awaʒok you mash

hikroho -> hikoroho he prepares

- Cf. Slavic polnoglasie: CVRC > CVRVC berz-a 'birch' berez-a Russian
- The fact that the copying is most likely to happen across a liquid/sonorant could have its roots in simple co-articulation with the sonorant reflecting the formants of the adjacent vowel

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