

Syllable-counting Allomorphy by Indexed Constraints

Jochen Trommer

`jtrommer@uni-leipzig.de`

Universität Leipzig
Institut für Linguistik

OCP 5, Toulouse, January 23-26, 2008

Plot

- ▶ **Paster (2005, 2006):**
Syllable-counting allomorphy is not generally optimizing and must be derived by morphological subcategorization
- ▶ **This Talk:**
“Non-optimizing” allomorphy derives from optimizing lexically indexed constraints

Syllable-counting Phonological Suppletion in Estonian

	Nom.sg.	Gen.sg.	Gen.pl.	Part.pl.	
2 σ	visa	visa	visa- te	visa- sit	“block”
3 σ	paras	paraja	paraja- tte	paraja- it	‘suitable’
4 σ	atmiral	atmirali	atmirali- te	atmirali- sit	‘Admiral’

Stem with even syllable number \Rightarrow **-sit**

Stem with odd syllable number \Rightarrow **-it**

Terminology

Phonologically conditioned suppletive allomorphy

=

Phonological Suppletion

Syllable Counting as Phonology (Kager, 1996)

ALIGN-ST-R	The right edge of a stem should coincide with the right edge of a foot
FOOTING	Different constraints which assign bisyllabic trochees from left to right
STRESS2WEIGHT	Stressed syllables should be heavy

Syllable Counting as Phonology (Kager, 1996)

Input: visa+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -sit \\ -it \end{array} \right\}$	FOOTING	ALIGN-ST-R	STR2WT
☞ a. [(ví.sa)-sit]			*
b. [(ví.sa-i)t]		*!	*
c. [vi.(sá-i).t]	*!		

Input: paraja+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -sit \\ -it \end{array} \right\}$	FOOTING	ALIGN-ST-R	STR2WT
☞ a. [(pá.ra)(já-i)t]		*	**!
b. [(pá.ra)(já.si)t]		*	*
c. [(pá.ra-ja)-sit]	*!		*

Syllable Counting as Morphology (Paster, 2005)

-sit ↔ [+part +pl] / [Foot#] _____

-it ↔ [+part +pl]

Non-optimizing Phonological Suppletion in Tzeltal

Monosyllabic stems → **-óh**

Polysyllabic stems → **-éh**

s-ku'tʃ-**óh** “she carried it” s-kutʃ-laj-**éh** “she carried it repeatedly”

s-nuts-**óh** “he chased sth..” h-pak'-anta'j-**éh** “I patched it”

(Paster, 2006:105)

Pasters Argumentation (2005:328)

“[o] and [ɛ] do not alternate elsewhere . . . , so the allomorphy is probably truly suppletive.

Stress in Tzeltal is word-final . . . , so the allomorphy is not stress-conditioned.

A constraint banning [ɛ] in the second syllable has not been proposed for UG, . . .

so this appears to be a case where we would not want to describe the distribution of allomorphs as phonologically optimizing in any way.”

Syllable Counting in Tzeltal as Morphology

-oh ↔ perf / [#σ#] _____

-ɛh ↔ perf

(Paster, 2006:105)

Overview

Lexically Indexed Constraints and Truncation

Simple Cases of Syllable-counting Allomorphy

Opaque Cases of Syllable-counting Allomorphy

Alternative Analyses

Theoretical Background

- ▶ **Lexically Indexed Constraints:**

Morpheme-specific phonology derives from constraints indexed for specific (classes of) morphemes (Pater, 2006)

- ▶ **Stratal Optimality Theory:**

Optimization applies at two ordered levels:
the stem and the word level (Bermúdez-Otero, 2007, 2008)

Lexically Indexed Constraints

Dative Suffix: Velar Deletion

Nominative	Dative	
bebek	bebe-e	'baby'
inek	ine-e	'cow'

(Turkish)

Aorist Suffix: No Velar Deletion

Past	Aorist	
gerek-ti	gerek-ir	'be necessary'
birak-tı	birak-ır	'leave'

Lexically Indexed Constraints

- ***VKV_{-e}**: Avoid the sequence Vowel - k - Vowel
(Indexed for the suffix -e)

- ***X_L**: Assign a violation mark to any instance of X
that contains a phonological exponent
of a morpheme specified as **L** (Pater, 2006)

- ***X_L**: Assign a violation mark to any instance of X
that contains a phonological exponent
of an **allomorph** specified as **L** (proposed modification)

Lexically Indexed Constraints

Dative:

Input: inek-e	*VKV _{-e}	MAX-C
☞ a. ine-e		*
b. in ek-e	*!	

Aorist:

Input: gerek-ir	*VKV _{-e}	MAX-C
a. gere-ir		
☞ b. gerek-ir		*!

Three Types of Truncation

- ▶ Truncation with internal affixation
- ▶ Truncation with external affixation
- ▶ Truncation without overt affixation

Truncation with Internal Affixation

Stu(dent)	→	(Studi)	‘student’
(Hausauf)(gabe)	→	(Hausi)	‘homework’
(Kinder)(garten)	→	(Kindi)	‘kindergarten’

(German hypocoristic formation: Féry, 1997)

The affix -i is **part of** the bisyllabic template

Truncation with External Affixation

Midori → (Mido)-čan, (Mii)-čan
Yooko → (Yo.ko)-čan, (Yoo)-čan
Akira → (A.ki)-čan

(Japanese hypocoristic formation: Benua, 1995)

The affix -čan is **outside of** the bimoraic template

Truncation without Overt Affixation


Isabél → (Í.sa)
Federíco → (Fé.de)
Gertrúdis → (Gér.tru)

(Spanish hypocoristic formation: Roca & Feliu, 2003:188)


Besides truncation there is no overt affix

Internal-affix Truncation by Indexing

Base:

Input: Student	PWD=BINFT _{-i}	MAX	FTBIN
a. Stu(dent)			*!
 b. (Stu.dent)			

Hypocoristic:

Input: Student-i	PWD=BINFT _{-i}	MAX	FTBIN
a. Stu(den.ti)	*!		
 b. (Stu.di)		***	

PWD=BINF_T; Decomposed

Hypocoristic:

Input: Student-i	ALL-FT-LFT _{-i}	PARSE σ_{-i}
a. Stu(den.ti)	*!	
b. (Stu.den)ti		*!


Truncation without Overt Affixation

- ▶ Morpheme-specific phonology must be transmitted through affixation of phonological material
- ▶ Hence Truncation without overt affixation must be covert affixation:


Affixation of phonological structure (e.g. a foot node) which is fully integrated into the base

Covert-Affix Truncation by Indexing

Base:

Input: Isabel	PWD=BINF _{T-F}	MAX
a. l.sa(bel)		
 b. (l.sa)		*!


Hypocoristic:

Input: Isabel-F	PWD=BINF _{T-F}	MAX
a. l.sa(bel) _F	*!	
 b. (l.sa)		***


External-Affixation Truncation

- ▶ is Bimorphemic:
- ▶ Truncation is derived by covert-affix truncation at the stem level
- ▶ External affixation reflects non-truncating affixation at the word level

External-Affixation Truncation

Input: Midori-F	PWD=BINF _{T.F}	MAX
a. Mi.do(ri) _F	*!	
 b. (Mi.do)		**

**Stem
Level**

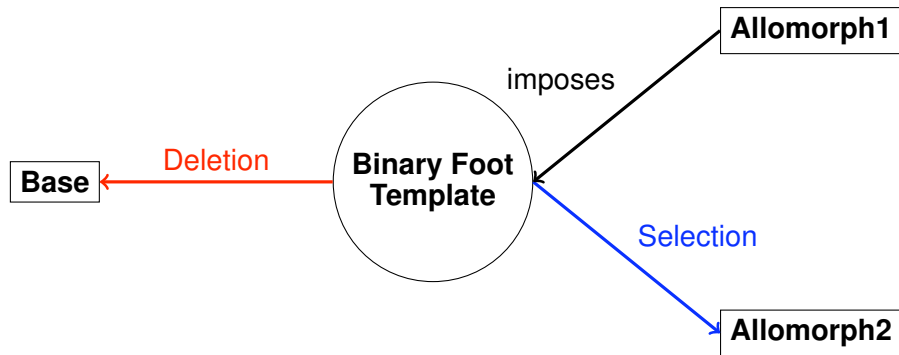
Input: Mido-čan	MAX
a. Mi.do-čan	
 b. Mi.do	*!***

**Word
Level**

From Truncation to Syllable-counting Allomorphy

Truncation

Allomorphy



Phonological Analysis of Tzeltal

- ▶ **-oh** is the allomorph preferred by morphological constraints
- ▶ Lexically indexed constraints require that **-oh** can only appear in unmarked prosodic words (bisyllabic trochees)
- ▶ **-oh** appears in bisyllabic forms (with monosyllabic bases)
- ▶ **-ɛh** appears otherwise

Tzeltal by indexed-constraint optimization

Input: skutf+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\varepsilon h \\ -oh \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=BINFT _{-oh}	PERF=oh
☞ a. (sku.tj-oh)		
b. (sku.tj-εh)		*!

Input: skutf|aj+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\varepsilon h \\ -oh \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=BINFT _{-oh}	PERF=oh
a. skutf(la.j-oh)	*!	
☞ b. skutf(la.j-εh)		*

Zuni (Language Isolate, New Mexiko)

Monosyllabic stems → **-ʔleʔ**

Polysyllabic stems → **-nne**

ʔí-ʔleʔ ‘sinew’

ʔí-ʔleʔ ‘piece of meat’

hóma-**nne** ‘juniper leaf’

téna-**nne** ‘song’

⇒ Analysis completely analogous to Tzeltal

Kaititj (Pama-Nyungan)

Bisyllabic stems → **-ŋ**

Polysyllabic stems → **-l**

akí-**ŋ** 'head'

ilt^yí-**ŋ** 'hand'

aNmí-**ŋ** 'red ochre'

aynpí-**ŋ** 'pouch'

alíki-**l** 'dog'

aʔúyi-**l** 'man'

ayírki-**l** 'sun'

lúNpiri-**l** 'forehead'

⇒ Analysis completely analogous to Tzeltal
 (-ŋ appears in bisyllabic, -l in polysyllabic outputs)

Preliminary Observation

Bisyllabic templates are pervasive

Saami (Dolbey 1997)

	jearra- ‘to ask’	veahkehea- ‘to help’	even	odd
1du	je:r.re.- ∅	veah.ke.he:- t.ne	∅	-tne
2du	jear.ra.- beaht.ti	veah.ke.he.- hp.pi	-beahtti	-hppi
2pl	jear.ra.- beh.tet	veah.ke.he:- h.pet	-behtet	-hpet
passive	je:r.ro.- juv.vo	veah.ke.hu- v.vo	-juvvo	-vvo

Saami as Pure optimization

Input: je:r.re+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\emptyset \\ -tne \end{array} \right\}$

	PARSE σ
☞ a. (je:r.re- \emptyset)	
b. (je:r.re)-tne	*!

Input: veah.ke.he+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\emptyset \\ -tne \end{array} \right\}$

	PARSE σ
a. (veah.ke).he- \emptyset	*!
☞ b. (veah.ke).(he-t.ne)	

Problem with Recursive Affixation

je:r.ro-**juv.vo-beaht.ti** 'you (two) ask' *je:r.ru-**v.vo-hp.pi**
 ask-passive-2du

Input: je:r.ro+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{-juvvo} \\ \text{-vvo} \end{array} \right\} + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{-beahtti} \\ \text{-hppi} \end{array} \right\}$

	PARSE σ
☞ a. (je:r.ro)- (juv.vo)-(beaht.ti)	
☛ b. (je:r.ru- v)(vo-hp.pi)	
c. (je:r.ru- v)(vo-beaht)ti	*!
d. (je:r.ro)- (juv.vo-hp)pi	*!

Stratal Optimization

Input: je:r.ro+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{-juvvo} \\ \text{-vvo} \end{array} \right\}$

	PARSE σ
☞ a. (je:r.ro)-(juv.vo)	
b. (je:r.ru-v)vo	*!

**Stem
Level**

Input: je:r.ro.juv.vo+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{-beahtti} \\ \text{-hppi} \end{array} \right\}$

	PARSE σ
☞ a. (je:r.ro)-(juv.vo)-(beaht.ti)	
b. (je:r.ro)-(juv.vo-hp)pi	*!

**Word
Level**

Dyirbal (Pama-Nyungan)

Bisyllabic stems → **-ŋgu**

Polysyllabic stems → **-gu**

'yara-**ŋgu** 'man' 'ya.ma'ni-**gu** 'rainbow'

'yugu-**ŋgu** 'stick' 'du.ŋa'ŋunu-**gu** 'from leaves in water'

A tri-syllabic template?

Alternative Morphological Segmentation of Dyirbal

-ŋ/-∅ is a stem extension (stem level)

-gu is the ergative suffix (word level)

'[yara-**ŋ**]-gu 'man' ['ya.ma'ni-**∅**]-gu 'rainbow'

'[yugu-**ŋ**]-gu 'stick' ['du.ŋa'ŋunu-**∅**]-gu 'from leaves in water'

⇒ Analysis at the stem level completely analogous to Tzeltal
 (-**ŋ** appears in bisyllabic, -**∅** in polysyllabic outputs)

Dyirbal by Indexed-constraint Stem Optimization

Input: yara+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \eta \\ -\emptyset \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=BINF _{T-η}	EXT=η
☞ a. (ya.ra-η)		
b. (ya.ra-∅)		*!

Input: yamani+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\eta \\ -\emptyset \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=BINF _{T-η}	EXT=η
a. ya(ma.ni-η)	*!	
☞ b. ya(ma.ni-∅)		*

Opaque Syllable Counting in Spanish

Input Stem

1 σ	2 σ (final V)	2 σ (final C)	3 σ	4 σ
vil	franquo	gentil	maduro	estúpido
vil- eza	franqu- eza	gentil- eza	madur- ez	estupid- ez
'vile'	'truthful'	'gentle'	'mature'	'stupid'

Output Stem

1 σ	2 σ	3 σ
vil	gentil	estúpido
vil- eza	gentil- eza	estupid- ez
franqu	maduro	
franqu- eza	madur- ez	

Problem for a Phonological Account

gentil-**eza** and madur-**ez** should have the same allomorph

No Problem for a Subcategorization Account:

-ez ↔ N / [...σσσ#] _____

-eza ↔ N

(Paster, 2006:160)

gentil and maduro differ for the morphology

Stratal Analysis

- ▶ Deadjectival nominalization is bimorphemic:
a stem-level affix (little a), and a word-level affix (little n)
(+ the inflectional class marker in -ez-a)
- ▶ n is consistently -ez
- ▶ a has two allomorphs: -∅ and a templatic affix F
- ▶ The class marker is morphologically suppressed in the context of -∅

Stratal Optimization

Input: gentil+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -F \\ -\emptyset \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=FT _F	a=F
☞ a. (gen.til) _F		
b. (gen.til)-∅		*!

**Stem
Level**

Input: (gen.til)_F+ez+(a)

	F ↔ a
☞ a. (genti) _F (l-ez-a)	
b. (genti) _F (l-ez)	*!

**Word
Level**

Stratal Optimization

Input: $\text{maduro} + \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -F \\ -\emptyset \end{array} \right\}$

	PWD=FT _F	a=F
☞ a. $\text{ma}(\text{du.ro})_F$	*!	
b. $\text{ma}(\text{du.ro})-\emptyset$		*

**Stem
Level**

Input: $(\text{ma.du.ro}) + \text{ez} + (\text{a})$

	F ↔ a
a. $(\text{madu})(\text{r-ez-a})$	*!
☞ b. $(\text{madu})(\text{r-ez})$	

**Word
Level**

Alternatives to Phonological Subcategorization

- ▶ Lexically indexed constraints (Pater, 2006; this talk) ✓
- ▶ Underlying prosodic templates (next slide) ✓
- ▶ Cophonologies (Inkelas & Zoll (2005)) *
- ▶ Morpheme-specific correspondence (McCarthy & Prince (1994); Benua (1995)) *

Tzetal by Underlying Prosodic Template

Input: skutf+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon h \\ [(\sigma\sigma_{oh})]_{\omega} \end{array} \right\}$

	TEMPLATE	SATISF	MAX	PERF=oh
☞ a. [(sku.tfoh)] _ω				
b. [(sku.tfεh)] _ω				*!

Input: skutflaj+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon h \\ [(\sigma\sigma_{oh})]_{\omega} \end{array} \right\}$

	TEMPLATE	SATISF	MAX	PERF=oh
a. [skutf.(la.joh)] _ω	*!			
b. [(sku.tfoh)] _ω			*!***	
☞ c. [(skutf.la.jεh)] _ω				*

Syllable-counting Allomorphy by Cophonologies?

If cophonologies are relativized to morphemes:

their allomorphs cannot have different templates

If cophonologies are relativized to allomorphs:

there can be no competition between allomorphs

⇒ Cophonologies cannot emulate indexed constraints
in syllable-counting allomorphy

Morpheme-specific Correspondence

- ▶ Would be based on ranking the following constraints:
FAITH-BT, FAITH-IO, PWD=BINFT, PERF=oh
- ▶ No ranking of these constraints
provides the necessary distinctions

Tzetal by Morpheme-specific Correspondence

Input: skutf+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\varepsilon h \\ -oh \end{array} \right\}$

	FAITH-BT	Faith-IO	PWD=BINFT	PERF=oh
a. (sku.tf-oh)				
b. (sku.tf-εh)				*

Input: skutflaj+ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\varepsilon h \\ -oh \end{array} \right\}$

	FAITH-BT	Faith-IO	PWD=BINFT	PERF=oh
a. skutf(la.j-oh)			*	
b. skutf(la.j-εh)			*	*
c. (sku.tf-oh)	***			
d. (sku.tf-εh)		***		

Summary

- ▶ Problematic cases of phonological suppletion follow from indexed constraints + stratal optimization
- ▶ Most cases of syllable-counting allomorphy involve bisyllabic foot templates
- ▶ Underlying templates are equivalent, cophonologies and morpheme-specific correspondence are not

References

- ▶ Benua, Laura (1995) Identity effects in morphological truncation. In Beckman et al. (eds.) *University of Massachusetts Occasional Papers in Linguistics 18: Papers in Optimality Theory*, 77-136.
- ▶ Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo (2007) Morphological structure and phonological domains in Spanish denominal derivation. In Sonia Colina & Fernando Martínez-Gil (eds.), *Optimality-theoretic studies in Spanish phonology*, 278-311. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- ▶ Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo (2008) *Stratal Optimality Theory*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (to appear).
- ▶ Paster, Mary (2005) Subcategorization vs. output optimization in syllable-counting allomorphy. *Proceedings of WCCFL 24*, 326-333.
- ▶ Paster, Mary (2006) *Phonological Conditions on Affixation*. PhD Thesis, University Of California, Berkeley.
- ▶ Dolbey, Andrew. 1997. Output optimization and cyclic allomorph selection. *Proceedings of the Fifteenth West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics*: 97-112. Stanford: CSLI.
- ▶ Féry, Caroline (1997) Uni und Studis: die besten Wörter des Deutschen. *Linguistische Berichte 172*: 461-490.
- ▶ Inkelas, Sharon & Cheryl Zoll (2005) *Reduplication: Doubling in Morphology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- ▶ Kager, René (1996) On affix allomorphy and syllable counting. In Kleinhenz, U. (ed.), *Interfaces in Phonology*, 155-171. Berlin: Akademie-Verlag.
- ▶ McCarthy, John & Alan Prince (1994) The emergence of the unmarked: Optimality in prosodic morphology. *Proceedings of NELS 24*: 333-379.
- ▶ Pater, Joe (2006) *The Locus of Exceptionality: Morpheme-Specific Phonology as Constraint Indexation*. To appear in *UMOP: Papers in Optimality Theory III*.
- ▶ Roca, Iggy & Elena Felíu (2003) Morphology in truncation: the role of the Spanish desinence. *Yearbook of Morphology 2002*: 187-243.