PHONOLOGY: THE SOUND PATTERNS OF LANGUAGE

Segment Insertion and Deletion Rules

- Phonological rules may also add or delete entire segments
 - Adding a segment is known as epenthesis
 - The rules for forming plurals, possessives, and third person singular verb agreement in English all involve an epenthesis rule:

Insert a [ə] before the plural morpheme /z/ when a regular noun ends in a sibilant, giving [əz]

 $\emptyset \rightarrow \mathfrak{d}$ [+sibilant] ___ [+sibilant]

Segment Insertion and Deletion Rules

- Segment deletion is more common than insertion
 - The word memory is often pronounced as if it were spelled memry
 - The deletion of [g]:

```
sign [sām] signature [signətfər]
design [dəzām] designation [dɛzigneʃən]
paradigm [pʰærədāɪm] paradigmatic [pʰærədɪgmæɾək]
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From One to Many and from Many to One

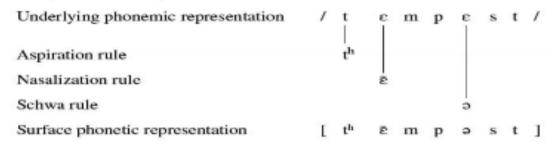
In English unstressed vowels are reduced to [a]

/i/ compete [i] competition	[e]
/t/ medicinal [1] medicine	[ə]
/e/ maintain [e] maintenance	$[\mathfrak{d}]$
/ε/ telegraph [ε] telegraphy	[2]
/æ/ analysis [æ] analytic	[e]
/a/ solid [a] solidity	[2]
/o/ phone [o] phonetic	[5]
/u/ Talmudic [u] Talmud	[c]

 German has both voiced and voiceless obstruents as phonemes, but when they occur at the end of words, they become voiceless

The Function of Phonological Rules

- Phonological rules provide the phonetic information necessary for the pronunciation of utterances
 - Derivation: the way the phonological rules apply to the underlying phonemic representation to create the phonetic representation:



SLIPS OF THE TONGUE: EVIDENCE FOR PHONOLOGICAL RULES

A slip of the tongue is a mistake in speeking, usually trivial, sometimes amusing. Also called lapsus linguage or tongue-slip. Something that you say by accident when you intended to say something else.

- > Eg: I called her new boyfriend by her previous boyfriend's name.
- > It was just a slip of the tongue

- In order to determine the phonemes and allophones in a language other than English, you should answer the following questions while you examine data:
 - 1. Are there any minimal pairs in the data in which these sounds contrast?
 - 2. Are any noncontrastive sounds in complementary distribution?
 - 3. If noncontrasting phones are found, what are the underlying phonemes and their allophones?
 - 4. What are the phonological rules by which the allophones can be derived?

- In the Greek data below, our task is to determine whether the following sounds are allophones of separate phonemes or allophones of the same phoneme:
 - [x] voiceless velar fricative
 - [k] voiceless velar stop
 - [c] voiceless palatal stop
 - [ç] voiceless palatal fricative

```
    [kano]

               "do"
                                    9. [ceri]
                                                 "hand"
               "lose"
                                                  "daughter"
                                   10. [kori]
  2. [xano]
               "pour"
                                                  "dances"
                                   11. [xori]
  3. [çino]
               "move"
                                                 "money"
  4. [cino]
                                    12. [xrima]
               "charms"
                                                  "shame"
  5. [kali]
                                   13. [krima]
               "plight"
                                                  "handful"
                                    [14] [xufta].
  6. [xali]
               "eel"
                                                 "bonbons"
                                    15. [kufeta].
 7. [celi].
               "candle"
                                                 "no"

    8. [ceri]

                                    [16. [oçi].
```

1. Are there any minimal pairs in which the sounds [x],
 [k], [c], and [ç] contrast?

```
"hand"
                "do"
                            9. [çeri]
1. [kano]
                "lose"
                                        "daughter"
2. [xano]
                           10. [kori]
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                           11. [xori]
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                                        "money"
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                                           "shame"
                           13. [krima]
5. [kali]
                "plight"
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6. [xali]
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                           15. [kufeta]
7. [çeli]
                                            "no"
                "candle"
                           16. [oci]
8. [ceri]
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1. Are there any minimal pairs in which the sounds [x], [k], [c], and [c] contrast?

```
"do"
                                             "hand"

    1. [kano]

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2. [xano]
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7. [celi]
                  "candle"
                               16. [oçi]
                                             "no"
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```

 From these minimal pairs, we can tell that [k] and [x] contrast and that [c] and [ç] also contrast, but we have no evidence that [k] and [c] contrast, and we also don't yet know about [x] and [c]

- 2. Are any noncontrastive sounds in complementary distribution?
 - One way to determine this is to list each phone with the environment in which it occurs:

```
    [k]: before [a], [o], [u], [r]
    [x]: before [a], [o], [u], [r]
    [c]: before [i], [e]
    [c] before [i], [e]
```

 We can conclude that the stops [k] and [c] are allophones of one phoneme, and the fricatives [x] and [ç] are allophones of one phoneme

- 3. Which of the phone pairs is more basic, and therefore the underlying phoneme?
 - In many languages of the world, velar sounds become palatal before front vowels
 - This is an assimilation rule since palatals are pronounced further forward in the mouth as are front vowels
 - Therefore we select /k/ to be a phoneme with allophones [k] and [c], and /x/ as a phoneme with allophones [x] and [ç]

 4. We can now state the rule by which the palatals can be derived from the velars:

Palatalize velar consonants before front vowels

- Using feature notation we can state the rule as:

[+velar] → [+palatal] / ___ [-back]

 Since only consonants can be velar and only vowels have the feature [-back], we don't have to include information about the features [consonantal] or [syllabic] in order to make our rule as simple as possible

Which of the following English datasets represents allophones of /t/ in free variation?

- A) [baɪt] 'bite' and [baɪt] 'bite'
- B) [baɪt] 'bite' and [baʊt] 'bought'
- C) [thap] 'top' and [stap] 'stop'
- D) [thaɪ] 'tire' and [daɪ] 'dire'

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If we can write a rule to correctly predict which of two sounds will occur in what environment in a language, that means those two sounds are in which type of distribution?

- A) free variation
- B) contrastive distribution
- C) complementary distribution
- D) distinctive feature

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- complementary distribution
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If a minimal pair is found for two sounds in a language, that means the two sounds are:

- A) allophones of the same phoneme in free variation
- B) allophones of two separate phonemes
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- D) phones with unknown phonemic status

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Which of the following sets of sounds represents the natural class of voiceless alveolar consonants in English?

- A) [t, d, n, r, r, s, z, J, I]
- B)[t, s]
- C) [t, d]
- D) [p, t, s]

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- B) deletion
- C) epenthesis
- D) derivation

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