

Class 5: Optimality Theory, part II

To do

- Topic proposal or bibliographic exercise due Thursday

Overview [after discussion of project]: Last week we talked in detail about how the theory works. This time, the focus will be on using it. Plus, target vs. process; correspondence theory.

1. Exercise: a bleeding example from English

- Translate your previous rule analysis into OT

(reminder: /z/, Ø → i / [+strid]__[+strid], [-son] → [-voice] / [-voice] __)

p ^h i-z	‘peas’	dɑg-z	‘dogs’	mɪt-s	‘mitts’	glæs-iz	‘glasses’
t ^h oʊ-z	‘toes’	læb-z	‘labs’	blouk-s	‘blokes’	fɪz-iz	‘fizzes’
dɑl-z	‘dolls’	sɑlɪd-z	‘solids’	k ^h ɑf-s	‘coughs’	brɛntʃ-iz	‘branches’
p ^h æn-z	‘pans’	weɪv-z	‘waves’			bædʒ-iz	‘badges’
		saɪð-z	‘scythes’			wɪʃ-iz	‘wishes’

- Could the counterbleeding candidate *[glæs-is] win under any ranking of these constraints?

2. Very short feeding example

Catalan (Indo-European lang. from Spain, France, Andorra w/ 11.5 million speakers [Lewis 2009]; Mascaró 1976)

son	‘they are’	bin	‘twenty’ (/bint/, cf. [bintiu] ‘21’)
poks	‘few’	pans	‘breads’
som poks	‘they are few’	bim pans	‘twenty breads’

- Let’s develop a rule analysis together.
- Give an OT analysis.
- Could the counterfeeding candidate *[bin pans] win under any ranking of these constraints?

3. Counterfeeding that we can capture

ARomance metaphony case from Walker 2005

Lena (dialect of Asturian, a language from Spain with about 100,000 speakers)

fī-a	‘daughter’	fī-u	‘son’
nén-a	‘child (fem.)’	nín-u	‘child (masc.)’
tsób-a	‘wolf (fem.)’	tsúb-u	‘wolf (masc.)’
gát-a	‘cat (fem.)’	gét-u	‘cat (masc.)’

- Develop a rule account
- What’s the problem with translating this into OT (hint: [gét-u] is the problematic word)?
- Any ideas for playing with our faithfulness constraints to get this?

4. Opacity

- We now have our first empirical difference between SPE and OT: SPE straightforwardly predicts counterfeeding and counterbleeding, and OT doesn't.
 - any purported case of counterfeeding or counterbleeding is a good **term-paper topic**
- There are versions of OT that do better with opacity (e.g., Kiparsky's Stratal OT).

5. We need a better theory of faithfulness

- Trick question: fill in the constraint violations:

	/tʉi/	IDENT(round)	IDENT(back)
<i>a</i>	[tʉ]		

- In Prince & Smolensky 1993, an output candidate contains the input form—you can see what's been inserted or deleted.
 - This is retrospectively known as the containment approach (output *contains* the input).
 - Changing features gets tricky, and metathesis gets very hard.

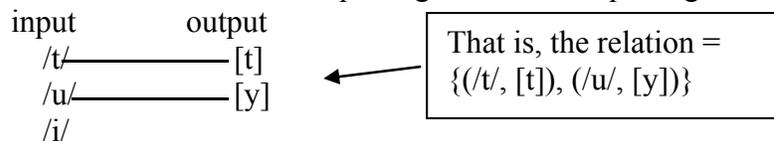
6. The correspondence relation

McCarthy & Prince 1995 proposed replacing containment with **correspondence**.

- Every segment in the input bears a unique index (maybe every feature, mora, syllable... whatever the parts of a representation are).
- Units of the output also bear indices (instead of the output containing input material).
- An input segment and an output segment are *in correspondence* iff they bear identical indices.

	/t ₁ u ₂ i ₃ /	IDENT(round)	IDENT(back)
<i>a</i>	[t ₁ y ₂]		*
<i>b</i>	[t ₁ y ₃]	*	

- These indices define a relation between input segments and output segments:



- /p₁a₂t₃o₄k₅/ → [p₁a₂t₃o₄k₅] means Corr(/p₁/, [p₁]), Corr(/a₂/, [a₂]), etc., where Corr(x, y) means "x corresponds to y".
- These are also output candidates for that input: [p₅a₁t₄o₂k₃], [p₁a₁t₁o₁k₁], [p₆a₇t₈o₉k₁₀].
 - But they're so outrageously bad we wouldn't normally bother including them in a tableau.
- When you see a candidate in a tableau without indices, you can assume that the correspondence relation is the obvious one.
- When it's not clear what the obvious correspondence relation is, spell it out.

7. Constraints on the relation

- The purpose for adding this relation to each input-output pair is so that constraints can use it.
- Faithfulness constraints (sometimes also called *correspondence constraints*) are constraints that care about various aspects of the correspondence relation.
- Here are the most important ones proposed by McCarthy & Prince:

MAX-C	(don't delete)	Every consonant in the input must have a correspondent in the output. Every vowel in the input must have a correspondent in the output.
MAX-V		(<i>maximize</i> the preservation of material in the input)
DEP-C	(don't insert)	Every consonant in the output must have a correspondent in the input. Every vowel in the output must have a correspondent in the input.
DEP-V		(every segment in the output should <i>depend</i> on a segment in the input.)
IDENT(F)	(don't change feature values)	If two segments are in correspondence, they must bear identical values for feature [F]. This constraint doesn't care about <i>whether</i> segments have correspondents or not; only about making sure feature values match <i>if</i> two segments do correspond.

- There are also constraints against merging, splitting, and reordering segments. See McCarthy & Prince 1995 for a full list.

8. Process vs. target

We got this far

- Here's a difference between SPE and OT in typological predictions.
 - SPE might predict that similar rules (processes) should be seen across languages
 - OT predicts that a markedness constraint should trigger diverse repairs across languages.

Some terms, coined by McCarthy, that you might run into:

Homogeneity of target

= languages impose the same well-formedness conditions on outputs

Heterogeneity of process

= languages use different means to satisfy the well-formedness conditions

9. Case study, if we have time: *NÇ in Pater 2001; Pater 2003

- *NÇ is an abbreviation for *[+NASAL][−VOICE].
 - This constraint seems to have an aerodynamic basis (raising the velum after a nasal → velar leak and 'velar pumping' → prolongation of voicing)—see Hayes & Stivers 1996.
- What ways can you think of to “repair” a sequence like *ampa*?

- Let's figure out the ranking for each of the following examples.

- Japanese

<i>present</i>	<i>past</i>	<i>gloss</i>
kats-u	kat-ta	'win'
kar-u	kat-ta	'cut'
wak-u	wai-ta	'boil'
ne-ru	ne-ta	'sleep'
mi-ru	mi-ta	'look'
ſin-u	ſin-da	'die'
jom-u	jon-da	'read'

- "Puyo Pongo" Quichua

ſiŋki	'soot'	tſuntina	'to stir the fire'
tſunŋa	'ten'	indi	'sun'
pampal'ina	'skirt'	nukantſi	'we'
hambi	'poison'	pundza	'day'
wasi-ta	'house'	kan-da	'you'
ajtſa-ta	'meat'	atan-da	'the frog'
puru-ta	'gourd'	wakin-da	'others'
ali-tſu	'is it good?'	kan-dzu	'you?'
lumu-tſu	'manioc?'	tijan-dzu	'is there?'
mana-tſu	'isn't it?'	tſarin-dzu	'does he have?'

- Magindanaw

pəm-báŋun	'is waking up'
pən-dila	'is licking'
pəŋ-gəbá	'is destroying'
pəb-pása	'is selling'
pəd-sígup	'is smoking'
pəd-tánda	'is marking'
pəg-kúpja	'is wearing a kupia'

- Standard Malay

/məN+pilih/	məpilih	‘to choose’
/məN+tulis/	məntulis	‘to write’
/məN+kasih/	məŋasih	‘to give’
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/məN+bəli/	məmbəli	‘to buy’
/məN+dapat/	məndapat	‘to get, to receive’
/məN+ganti/	məŋganti	‘to change’
<i>note also in Malay</i>		
	əmpat	‘four’
	untuk	‘for’
	muŋkin	‘possible’

- Kelantan dialect of Malay—I haven’t been able to track down the real data, but it should look schematically like this:

/məN+pilih/	məpilih	‘to choose’
/məN+tulis/	mətulis	‘to write’
/məN+kasih/	məkasih	‘to give’
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/məN+bəli/	məmbəli	‘to buy’
/məN+dapat/	məndapat	‘to get, to receive’
/məN+ganti/	məŋganti	‘to change’

- Can we explain why it’s always the nasal that deletes (not the following C)?

- English

ɪmp ^h asəbəl	‘impossible’
ɪnt ^h empərət	‘intemperate’
ɪŋk ^h ælkjələbəl	‘incalculable’
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ɪmbɜːb	‘imberb’
ɪndisənt	‘indecent’
ɪŋglɔːriəs	‘inglorious’

Some apparently unattested “solutions”:

- Epenthesis /np/ → [nəp]
- Devoice the nasal /np/ → [n̥p]¹

¹ If *NC8 is really a constraint against the extra articulatory effort of spreading the vocal folds to prevent voicing, then a devoiced nasal is an even worse violation of that same constraint, so it makes sense that this is unattested.

10. *If we have time: language-internal example of heterogeneity of process*

Kwanyama (a.k.a. OshiKwanyama; Niger-Congo language with 421,000 speakers in Angola, and an unknown number in Namibia—again from Pater)

Loans: sitamba ‘stamp’
 pelenda ‘print’
 oinga ‘ink’

Prefixes: /e:N+pati/ e:mati ‘ribs’
 /oN+pote/ omote ‘good-for-nothing’
 /oN+tana/ onana ‘calf’

- What’s the ranking? Let’s do some tableaux

Next time: OT analysis practice session

References

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