



Universiteit Utrecht

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*Learning restrictive analyses
of Canadian Raising
in OT
using exceptionality diacritics*

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Opacity (restrictive analysis)

- Canadian English: low diphthongs /aɪ aʊ/ raise before:
 - Voiceless consonants (*transparent*)
rΛɪt 'write', mΛʊs 'mouse'
 - Voiced [r] only if derived from /t/ ("overapplication" opacity) (*opaque*)
rΛɪrə 'writer' (← rait-ə)
BUT rairə 'rider' (← raid-ə)
- **Restrictive** analysis of such an opaque pattern:
 - Ensures no word has unraised diphthong + voiceless C
*klaɪt
 - Ensures no word has raised diphthong + voiced C ← /t/
*flΛɪd, *(flΛɪrə ~ fla/Λɪd), ✓(flΛɪrə ~ flɪt)

Serial vs. Parallel analyses

- **Serial analysis (traditional;** Chomsky 1964, Bermudez-Otero 2003):
 1. Raising applies before voiceless consonants
 2. *t* is “flapped” (\rightarrow *r*) in certain V_V environments
 - Learnable (Nazarov & Pater 2017), but reintroduces serialism into Optimality Theory (Prince & Smolensky 1993/2004)
- **Parallel analysis** that acknowledges phonological opaque interaction (cf. Hayes 2004, Pater 2014) and does not assume extra representational levels (cf. Boersma 2007):
 - Raising applies before consonants indexed *i* (Pater 2000, Round 2017)
 - Consonants indexed *i* are either voiceless, or flaps derived from /t/ (see next slide)
 - Avoids conceptual disadvantages, but **is it learnable? Under which circumstances?**

Local indexation analysis

- Indexed constraints only apply to items marked by a particular index (Pater 2000, 2010)

- Round (2017): individual segments may have an index
- Indices stay the same between input and output (cf. Chomsky & Halle 1968)

- Restrictive analysis of Canadian Raising:

- No consonant indexed *i* follows an unraised diphthong

* C_i/aI_ >> Ident(low)

- Segments indexed *i* must be voiceless by default

*[+voice]_i >> Ident(voice)

- Except when flapping applies: it turns *i* segments voiced

*_o, *V{t,d}V >> *[+voice]_i >> Ident(voice), Ident(son)

/bab/	*[+voice] _i	*[+voice]
bab		**
/b _i ab/		
b _i ab	*	**

*r_iaIt_i, ✓r_iAIIt_i

*r_iAIId_i, ✓r_iAIIt_i

*r_iAIIf_iə, *r_iAIIt_iə

✓r_iAIIf_iə

Learning (local) indexation

- To learn indexation analysis:
 - Start with universal constraints and unindexed inputs
 - Determine **which constraints** & **which input segments** have **which index**
 - Rank all constraints
- Here: Round's (2017) algorithm:
 - Operates within Biased Constraint Demotion (BCD; Prince & Tesar 2004)
 - When BCD gets stuck, finds most generally applicable indexed constraint & corresponding indexed segments – add constraint to analysis and continue BCD (cf. Pater 2010)
 - Algorithm categorical, but makes random guesses when it cannot decide between analyses based on the data

Results

- For each condition (data set x UR hypothesis), 20 runs
 - All runs lead to some consistent analysis of the data
 - Table: number of times **restrictive** analysis is found for each condition

	UR ₁ : all surf candts = URs	UR ₂ : uncertainty wrt voicing	UR ₃ : “correct” URs
D ₁ : no transparent CR	0	0	0
D ₂ : transp CR, no alternations	0	0	0
D ₃ : transp CR and alternations	15 (/20)	7 (/20)	0

- Restrictive analysis found for dataset D₃ and UR₁/UR₂
 - True alternation between **t** and **r** necessary
 - Uncertainty about UR of [**t** ~ **r**] necessary (present in UR₁/UR₂ but not in UR₃)

Discussion & Conclusion

- Learning indexation analysis of Canadian Raising: possible
 - Based on Round's (2017) segmentally local indexation learner
- Conditions:
 - learner has access to transparent instances of process and alternations
 - learner has not yet finished determining URs of crucial segments
- Possible to analyze at least this case of opacity without serialism (cf. McCarthy 2007) and without additional levels of representation (cf. Boersma 2007)
- This analysis is learnable and discoverable from data given a universal constraint set
- Other types of opacity? Probabilistic learner?
Other assumptions about URs, data, constraints, etc.?



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Thank you!



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Appendix

Indexation

- Indexation: universal constraints may have variants specific to some inputs (morphemes/words) only (Pater 2000)

*[+voice]: no voiced segments

*[+voice]_{*i*}: no voiced segments in *i* words

- *Extended indexation*: indices are local to specific segments (Round 2017) and represented as binary; basically same as SPE diacritics

*[+voice]_[+i]: no voiced [+i] segments

✓ [d]_[-i]

*[d]_[+i]

Canadian Raising with indexation

- Raising: $*C_{[+i]}/aI_ \gg \text{Ident}(\text{low})$

$/\lambda a I t_{[+i]}/$	$*C_{[+i]}/aI_$	$\text{Id}(\text{low})$
$[\lambda a I t_{[+i]}]$	*!	
 $[\lambda \Lambda I t_{[+i]}]$		*

All underlying segments are [-i]
unless specified otherwise

- Flapping: $*V\{t,d\}V \gg * [+voice]_{[+j]}, \text{Ident}(\text{son}), \text{Ident}(\text{voi})$

$/b\lambda t_{[+i]}\partial/$	$*V\{t,d\}V$	$* [+voice]_{[+i]}$	$\text{Id}(\text{son})$	$\text{Id}(\text{voi})$
$[b\lambda t_{[+i]}\partial]$	*!			
 $[b\lambda r_{[+i]}\partial]$		*	*	*

Canadian Raising with indexation

- The surface voicing of a [+i] segment does not influence raising

/ɹaɪt[+i]-ə/	*V{t,d}V	*[+voice] _[+i]	*C _[+i] /aɪ_	Ident(low)	Ident(son)	Ident(voi)
ɹaɪt _[+i] ə	*!		*			
ɹʌɪt _[+i] ə	*!			*		
ɹaɪd _[+i] ə	*!	*	*			*
ɹʌɪd _[+i] ə	*!	*		*		*
ɹaɪr _[+i] ə		*	*!		*	*
 ɹʌɪr _[+i] ə		*		*	*	*

**All segments are [-i]
unless specified otherwise**

Richness of the Base

- Anything with [+i] always shows up as voiceless and triggers raising unless it's in the flapping context

/aɪd[+i]/	*V{t,d}V	*[+voice] _[+i]	*[-voice] _[-i]	*C _[+i] /aɪ_	Ident(low)	Ident(son)	Ident(voi)
aɪt				*!			*
 aɪt					*		*
aɪd		*!		*			
ʌɪd		*!			*		
aɪr		*!		*		*	
ʌɪr		*!			*	*	

**All underlying segments are [-i]
unless specified otherwise**

Richness of the Base

- Anything with [-i] always shows up as voiced and never triggers raising

/aɪt[-i]/	*V{t,d}V	*[+voice] _[+i]	*[-voice] _[-i]	*C _[+i] /aɪ_	Ident(low)	Ident(son)	Ident(voi)
aɪt			*!				
Λɪt			*!		*		
☞ aɪd							*
Λɪd					*!		*
aɪr						*!	*
Λɪr					*!	*	*

**All underlying segments are [-i]
unless specified otherwise**

Round's (2017) learner in more detail

- Round (2017): model to learn segmentally local indexation from winner-loser pair data
 1. Based on Biased Constraint Demotion (BCD, Tesar and Smolensky 2004)
 2. Whenever two inputs in the data have conflicting ranking requirements (= inconsistency): induce some indexed constraint (Pater 2010)
 3. Which indexed constraint assigned to which segments? (*new contribution*)
Selected based on number and location of Winner-preferring violation loci

Biased Constraint Demotion

- Version of Recursive Constraint Demotion (Tesar 1995) with a Markedness-over-Faithfulness bias
 - Start with no ranking
 - At each step, select only those constraints that prefer no losers = PNL
- Out of PNL, take just the Markedness constraints and install them at the bottom of the ranking
 - If there are no Markedness constraints, select the smallest set of Faithfulness constraints that will “free up” a Markedness constraint at the next step
- Remove from consideration all winner-loser pairs that have a W mark for one of the freshly installed constraints

Inconsistency

- BCD is dependent on constraints without L marks
- When there are no such constraints, this means something's wrong
 - Cues mutually **inconsistent** rankings, e.g.,
input 1 wants $A \gg B$, input 2 wants $B \gg A$: mutually incompatible
- Pater (2010): when you encounter inconsistency, induce some indexed constraint
 - Gets you out of inconsistency:
input 1 wants $A_i \gg B$, input 2 wants $B \gg A$: mutually compatible!

Indexed constraint selection

- Round (2017) wants model that infers segmentally local indices
- Therefore: violations track segment instances (“loci”)
 - *[+voice] has a W violation in the second “b” for W-L pair 1, but a L violation in the first “v” for W-L pair 2*
- For each constraint, compute:
 - Φ_W : Set of segment instances that get a W violation of that constraint
 - Φ_L : Set of segment instances that get a L violation of that constraint
 - $\Phi_W - \Phi_L$: Set of segment instances that get a W violation but never a L violation of that constraint

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 - $\Phi_W - \Phi_L$: Set of segment instances that get a W violation but never a L violation of that constraint
- Make [+i] indexed version of constraint that has the greatest $\Phi_W - \Phi_L$:
 - $\Phi_W - \Phi_L$ become [+i], all other segments instances become [-i] (*binarity: AN*)

Restrictiveness

- Grammars were evaluated on whether they were potentially **restrictive**
 - The consonants before which /aɪ, aʊ/ raise are the same consonants that alternate with a voiceless segment
- Learner had no way of assigning the same index to two different indexed constraints
 - Restrictiveness assessed by seeing if Raising constraint indexed to subset of segments indexed to *[+voice]



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