Cyclicity

Ricardo Bermúdez-Otero (University of Manchester)


Revised version (16 July 2010).

1. Introduction

The phonology of a natural language will often treat the same string differently according to whether it is wholly contained within a single morph, or it arises through a morphological operation like affixation, or it straddles the edges of two adjacent grammatical words. In the generative tradition there is a widespread and long-standing consensus that such morphosyntactic conditioning effects may come about in two ways: representationally or procedurally (Scheer 2008: §3ff; see Table 1). Representational morphosyntactic conditioning occurs when phonological processes are sensitive to the presence or absence of certain phonological objects—boundary symbols in SPE, prosodic categories in most later frameworks—which are in turn positioned by reference to the edges of morphosyntactic units. In procedural morphosyntactic conditioning, in contrast, morphosyntax directly controls the amount of structure visible during a given round of phonological computation, either by submitting to the phonology only a morphosyntactic subconstituent of a complete linguistic expression (as in the theory of the cycle) or by allowing the phonology access to the surface representation of some morphosyntactically related expression (as in the theory of transderivational or output-output correspondence, henceforth ‘OO-correspondence’).

This chapter addresses current debates about procedural morphosyntactic conditioning in phonology, focusing in particular on the contest between the cycle and OO-correspondence (§5-§9); we shall be concerned with prosody only insofar as it raises the nontrivial problem of demarcating procedural from representational effects (§4). Much of the discussion will be taken up with three instances of morphosyntactically induced misapplication that challenge the basic premises of transderivational theories: in all three cases, the surface bases needed for an analysis relying on OO-correspondence appear to be unavailable for phonological or morphological reasons (§6-§8). As the argument unfolds, however, it will become clear that questions about morphosyntax-phonology interactions are intricately entangled with problems in every other area of phonology, notably including the theory of representations, the phonology-phonetics interface, and the balance between synchronic and diachronic explanation.

---

1 In this chapter I have drawn on research previously presented at meetings in Groningen, Leipzig, Manchester, Rhodes, Toulouse, and Warsaw; I am grateful to the organizers and audiences on all these occasions for their comments and suggestions. I am also indebted to Sonia Colina, Andrew Nevins, Tobias Scheer, Patrycja Strycharczuk, and Jochen Trommer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theory</th>
<th>Representational effects</th>
<th>Procedural effects</th>
<th>Sample reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPE</td>
<td>boundary symbols (+, #)</td>
<td>the cycle</td>
<td>Chomsky and Halle (1968)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexical Phonology</td>
<td>prosodic units (built by rules)</td>
<td>the cycle (with levels)</td>
<td>Booij and Rubach (1984)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stratal OT</td>
<td>prosodic units (controlled by ALIGN)</td>
<td>the cycle (with levels)</td>
<td>Bermúdez-Otero and Luis (2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classical OT</td>
<td>prosodic units (controlled by ALIGN)</td>
<td>OO-correspondence</td>
<td>Raffelsiefen (2005)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral Phonology</td>
<td>empty CV units</td>
<td>the cycle (phases)</td>
<td>Scheer (2008)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 1. Two types of morphosyntactic conditioning acknowledged throughout the history of generative phonology.*
2. Two cases of cyclic misapplication in English: postnasal plosive deletion and Belfast dentalization

Let us begin with a well-known instance of morphologically induced overapplication. Present-day English tolerates homorganic consonant clusters consisting of a nasal followed by a noncoronal voiced plosive (i.e. [b] or [g]) only if the latter is syllabified in onset position; if the plosive would otherwise surface in the coda, it undergoes deletion (Borowsky 1993: 202).  

(1)   a.          b.
  bomb       [bΩm]           bombard_          [.bΩm.ˈbɒːd]  
  thumb      [θʌm]           thimble               ['θʌm.bi]  
  crumb      [kʌm]           crumble               ['kʌm.bi]  
  long       [lʌŋ]           elongate            [ˈelŋ.əɡet]  

The forms in (1a) and (1b) display normal application and normal nonapplication of deletion, respectively. In (2a), however, the process overapplies: the plosives [b] and [g] fail to surface stem-finally, even though in that position they would be syllabified as onsets; cf (2b).  

(2)   a.          b.
  bomb-ing    [bΩm.ɪŋ]       *['bΩm.ɪŋ]  
  thumb-ing   [θʌm.ɪŋ]       *['θʌm.ɪŋ]  
  crumb-ɣ    [kʌm.ɪ]        *['kʌm.ɪ]  
  long-ɪsh   [ˈlʌŋ.ɪʃ]      *[ˈlʌŋ.ɪʃ]  

According to the theory of the phonological cycle, first formulated by Chomsky, Halle, and Lukoff (1956: 75), the key to such instances of morphosyntactically induced misapplication is to be found in part-whole relationships within the grammatical constituent structure of the relevant linguistic expressions. Consider, for example, the morphological structure of the adjective long, the verb elongate, and the derived adjective longish:

---

2 All varieties of English exhibit postnasal [b]-deletion; [g]-deletion varies across dialects.
3 ThumbN and thimble are highly unlikely to be synchronically related, and so native speakers probably have no reason to derive the noun thumbN or the converted verb thumbV from a root /θʌm/. If so, the gerund thumb-ing [ˈθʌm.ɪŋ] is in fact transparent. This does not affect our argument, however: the key point is that the grammar of English systematically disallows transparent alternations between infinitives ending in [...Vm] and gerunds ending in [...Vm.ɪŋ].
Let us suppose that some of the morphosyntactic constituents shown in (3) define domains for phonological computation; I shall henceforth refer to these as ‘cyclic nodes’. Assume, at a minimum, that the set of cyclic nodes in (3) includes every stem immediately derived from a root, as well as every fully inflected, syntactically free grammatical word; these have been flagged with a superscript ©. Given these premises, one obtains the following nested domain structures:

(4)   a.   \[ [[\text{long}]] \]  
     b.   \[ [[i:\text{-long-ett}]] \]  
     c.   \[ [[\text{long}].\text{if}] \]  

Now suppose that phonological computation proceeds iteratively, starting with the domains defined by the smallest, most deeply embedded cyclic nodes, and then moving to larger, less deeply embedded cyclic nodes: in other words, suppose that the the computation of the phonological form of the parts precedes and feeds the computation of the phonological form of the whole.

(5)   a.   \[ [[\text{long}]] \]  
     b.   \[ [[i:\text{-long-ett}]] \]  
     c.   \[ [[\text{long}].\text{if}] \]  

inner cycle     \[ l\text{ŋ} \]   \[ i:.l\text{ŋ-ett} \]   \[ l\text{ŋ} \]  
outer cycle       —   —   \[ l\text{ŋ}.\text{if} \]  

According to this cyclic analysis, postnasal plosive deletion overapplies in long-ish because its conditions are met within a morphosyntactic subconstituent, the stem long-, which defines a cyclic domain by itself. The environment for deletion disappears in the outer cycle, as the vowel of the suffix -ish projects a syllable with an onset capable of sheltering the underlying /g/; but deletion has already applied in the inner cycle. The result is a counterbleeding interaction.

Observe that not all morphosyntactic constituents trigger phonological cycles. In (3b) and (4b), for example, it is absolutely crucial that roots (as opposed to stems) should not count as cyclic nodes (Kiparsky 1982: 32-33, Inkels 1989: §3.5.5); otherwise, postnasal plosive
deletion would incorrectly overapply in *e-long-ate*:\(^4\) A fully articulated theory of the cycle must of course specify criteria for designating particular morphosyntactic nodes as cyclic or noncyclic. Scholars working in the tradition of Lexical Phonology (e.g. Kiparsky 1982, Hargus and Kaisse 1993) and Stratal OT (e.g. Kiparsky 2000; Bermúdez-Otero 1999, 2003) have reached a broad consensus on a number of points, sometimes strikingly at variance with phase theory in minimalist syntax (Chomsky 2001): e.g. there appear to be no cyclic nodes between the grammatical word (X°) and the utterance (see further Scheer 2008: §740ff). Many other issues remain open: e.g. whether or not certain affixes should be allowed to define cyclic domains by themselves (Baker 2005; see also Mohanan 1982, and cf. McCarthy 2007: 133-34).

To account for morphologically induced underapplication, the theory of the cycle needs to supplemented with the concept of level or stratum.\(^5\) Consider, for example, the process of dentalization found in certain varieties of English spoken in and around Belfast: the coronal noncontinuants /t, d, n, l/ have alveolar realizations unless immediately followed by /(ə)/, in which case they become dental (John Harris 1985: 58, 211ff).

\[(6)\]
\begin{align*}
\text{a. train} & \quad [\text{t̪\text{\textendash}ræn}] & \text{drain} & \quad [\text{d̪\text{\textendash}ræn}] \\
\text{true} & \quad [\text{truː}] & \text{drew} & \quad [\text{druː}] \\
\text{b. Peter} & \quad ['\text{pɪtə}\text{\textendash}] & \text{ladder} & \quad ['\text{lædə}\text{\textendash}] & \text{dinner} & \quad ['\text{dɪnər}\text{\textendash}] & \text{pillar} & \quad ['\text{pɪlər}\text{\textendash}] & \text{matter} & \quad ['\text{mætə}\text{\textendash}] & \text{rudder} & \quad ['\text{rʌdər}\text{\textendash}] & \text{spanner} & \quad ['\text{splænə}\text{\textendash}] \\
\end{align*}

Dentalization underapplies when its environment is created by adding a suffix like agentive -er (7a) or comparative -er (7b) to a free stem, although it does apply normally when comparative -er is suffixed to a suppletive bound root (7c).

\[(7)\]
\begin{align*}
\text{a. bea[t]er} & \quad \text{loa[d]er} & \quad \text{di[n]er} & \quad \text{ki[l]er} \\
\text{wai[t]er} & \quad \text{ru[n]er} \\
\text{shou[t]er} & \quad \\
\text{b. fa[t]er} & \quad \text{lou[d]er} & \quad \text{fi[n]er} & \quad \text{coo[l]er} \\
\text{la[t]er} & \quad \\
\text{c. better} & \quad ['\text{bɛtər}\text{\textendash}] & \text{‘good.CMPR’} \\
\text{cf. better} & \quad ['\text{bætər}\text{\textendash}] & \text{‘one who bets’} \\
\end{align*}

Applying the same principles as in (4), we obtain cyclic domain structures like the following:

\(^4\) For the root-based status of this form, compare verbs like *e-dulcor-ate*, *e-mancip-ate*, *e-viscer-ate*, etc, which are manifestly derived from uninflectable bound bases.

However, it becomes immediately apparent that, if dentalization applies in every cycle, then cyclic derivation will just fail to produce the desired underapplication in (8c,d,f): dentalization will simply take place in the outer cycle.

Many cyclic frameworks solve this problem by asserting that phonological domains associated with morphosyntactic constituents of different kinds may be subject to different phonological generalizations: in common usage, such morphosyntactic constituents are said to ‘belong to different phonological levels’. Theories differ as to the number of phonological levels that may be distinguished within the grammar of a single language. Lexical Phonology and Stratal OT typically assume that each grammar specifies precisely three levels: the stem, word, and phrase levels. In affixal constructions, the ascription of the construction to the stem-level or word-level phonology is deemed to depend on properties both of the base (Giegerich 1999) and of the affix: the attachment of an affix to a root necessarily produces a stem-level category; the attachment of an affix to a stem may produce a stem-level or word-level category depending on the idiosyncratic affiliation of the affix (e.g. Bermúdez-Otero 2007a: 283). In contrast, full grammatical words trigger word-level cycles and complete utterances trigger phrase-level cycles.

In the case of Belfast English, one must assume that dentalization applies only within stem-level domains, and that agentive -er and comparative -er are word-level suffixes unless attached to bound roots. This yields the appropriate counterfeeding relationship between stem-level dentalization and word-level suffixation.

3. The Russian Doll Theorem and the life cycle of phonological processes

There is no room in this brief chapter to review all the predictions about morphosyntactically induced misapplication that follow from the theory of the cycle. It will therefore be appropriate to concentrate here on one of the most fundamental:
(10) The Russian Doll Theorem
Let there be the nested cyclic domains $[\gamma \cdots [\beta \cdots [\alpha \cdots] \cdots] \cdots]$. If a phonological process $p$ is opaque in $\beta$ because its domain is $\alpha$, then $p$ is opaque in $\gamma$.

To my knowledge, this entailment of cyclic theory has not been formally enunciated before, probably because it has been considered so obviously true as to be entirely trivial. Later, however, we shall see that OO-correspondence is easily capable of violating the Russian Doll Theorem and captures its effects only by stipulation (§9).

The Russian Doll Theorem has the following corollary:

(11) If a phonological process exhibits cyclic misapplication within a certain phonological configuration created by affixation, then it must also exhibit cyclic misapplication if the same configuration arises by word concatenation.

This follows logically from elementary facts of morphosyntactic layering: a phonological process can cyclically misapply in the presence of an affix only if that affix is excluded from its cyclic domain, which must therefore correspond to a morphosyntactic category smaller than the grammatical word, i.e. a stem; but, by its very nature, a stem cannot straddle the edges of adjacent words. Postnasal plosive deletion (§2) bears out this prediction: overapplication before word-level suffixes beginning with a vowel, as in long-ish $[\text{long}-\text{ish} \ [\text{\textipa{long}}]]$, entails overapplication in word-final prevocalic environments, as in long effect $[\text{long} \ . \text{effect}]$; cf. *$[\text{long} \ . \text{effect}]$.

Not only does corollary (11) hold true of postnasal plosive deletion in present-day English, but it also captures key facts in the diachronic evolution of the process. For /ŋg/ clusters, in particular, we can reconstruct the four historical stages shown in (12): Stage 0 represents the situation in Early Modern English; Stage 1 is attested in the formal, relatively conservative register of eighteenth-century orthoepist James Elphinston; Stage 2 corresponds to Elphinston’s description of his own casual, more innovative register; and Stage 3 is observed in present-day RP (Garrett and Blevins 2009: 527-28).

(12) Stage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>elongate</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prolong-er</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prolong it</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prolong</td>
<td></td>
<td>ŋg</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In compliance with (11), the diachronic transition from normal application (Stage 1) to word-internal overapplication (Stage 3) is effected through an intermediate phase involving overapplication at word boundaries but normal application word-internally (Stage 2).
More generally, the diachronic pathway shown in (12) provides a clear illustration of the typical life cycle of phonological processes, which stratal-cyclic frameworks capture in a particularly perspicuous way; see e.g. Bermúdez-Otero (1999: 99-103, 239–40; 2007b: 503), McMahon (2000: ch. 4). First, phonetically driven innovations enter the grammar from below as gradient phonetic rules, which later become stabilized as categorical phonological processes applying across the board at the phrase level (Bermúdez-Otero 2007b: 505): in (12), this is the transition from Stage 0 to Stage 1. Subsequently, analogical change causes the new phonological process to climb up to progressively higher levels, concomitantly narrowing down its domain of application (Dressler 1985: 149): in (12) we see deletion climbing up from the phrase level (Stage 1) to the word level (Stage 2), and from the word level (Stage 2) to the stem level (Stage 3). Eventually, senescent processes typically undergo morphologization or lexicalization: see Bermúdez-Otero (2008) for incipient symptoms of this in the case of postnasal plosive deletion.

The overall sequence of events is represented in greater detail in (13).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>level deletion?</th>
<th>elongate</th>
<th>prolonging</th>
<th>prolong it</th>
<th>prolong</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td><strong>Stage 0: Early Modern English</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲŋg]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td><strong>Stage 1: Elphinston’s formal register</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲŋg]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td><strong>Stage 2: Elphinston’s casual register</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲŋg]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>yes (vacuously)</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td><strong>Stage 3: present-day RP</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɡ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>yes (vacuously)</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>yes (vacuously)</td>
<td>[iː.lŋ.ɡɛt]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɡɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ ɲɲ]</td>
<td>[pɻ̞.lŋɡ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analogical changes involved in the transitions between Stages 1 and 2 and between Stages 2 and 3 were driven by input restructuring (Bermúdez-Otero 2006: 501ff, Bermúdez-Otero and
Hogg 2003: 105ff). At Stage 1, for example, surface \([_{PL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ]\) was derived unfaithfully from word-level \([_{WL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ]\) by a phrase-level application of deletion. By Stage 2, however, \([_{PL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ]\) has been reanalysed as derived faithfully from an identical word-level representation \([_{WL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ]\). This has the effect of introducing deletion into the word-level phonology, and gives rise to the innovative opaque surface form \([_{PL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ\text{-}h] \) derived from word-level \([_{WL} pəz\text{-}ləŋ\text{-}h]\). Bermúdez-Otero (1999: 100-3, 239-40; 2003: 4ff) outlines an approach to phonological learning that accounts straightforwardly for such patterns of recurrent input restructuring.

4. Cyclicity vs prosody

In §2 we assumed that the morphosyntactic conditioning effects displayed by postnasal plosive deletion and Belfast dentalization were procedural, not representational (see §1). However, several scholars have proposed that the behaviour of English word-level suffixes should be explained prosodically, rather than cyclically (e.g. Szpyra 1989: 178-200, Hammond 1999: 322-329). In this approach, suffixes like agentive -er and adjectival -ish are not incorporated into the prosodic word containing the stem, but attach under a second projection of \(ω\):

\[(14)\]
\[a. \quad ω' \quad b. \quad ω'
\]

\[\omega° \quad \sigma \quad long \quad ish \quad \omega° \quad \sigma \quad fat \quad er\]

If this were true, then the absence of dentalization in Belfast fatt-er \(\text{[fæt}_{z}^3]\), cf. \(\text{*[fæt}_{z}^2]\) (§2), could be described as a case of transparent nonapplication, rather than as an instance of opaque underapplication: one would just need to stipulate that dentalization does not apply unless its conditions are met within the first projection of \(ω\).

\[(15)\]

\[\left[ \begin{array}{l}
\text{coronal} \\
\text{−continuant}
\end{array} \right] \rightarrow [+\text{distributed}] / [\omega' \ldots (\exists)_{z} \ldots ]\]

The uncertainty whether a particular instance of morphosyntactic conditioning in phonology should be analysed procedurally or representationally is in fact one of the most serious and recurrent obstacles faced by empirical research into the morphosyntax-phonology interface. A great deal of extant work fails to make the cut on explicit, consistent, and principled grounds (Raffelsiefen 2005: 214-215). Typically, the question cannot be settled without analysing a very substantial fragment of the phonology of the language in question, including both morphosyntax-phonology and phonology-phonetic interactions (e.g. Bermúdez-Otero and Luis 2009).
In our case, phonological variation and phonetic gradience in English provide strong evidence against the prosodifications shown in (14). Let us first consider variation. Hayes (2000: 98) shows that, in American English, the application frequency of /l/-darkening follows this cline:

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
\text{higher frequency of } [l] & \text{lower frequency of } [l] \\
\text{beal} & > & \text{beal it} & > & \text{beal-ing} & > & \text{Healey}
\end{array}
\]

On the basis of a comprehensive survey of English function words, however, Selkirk (1996: 204-206) shows that combinations of a verb plus a weak object pronoun like *beal it* undergo affixal cliticization:

\[
\omega / \prime 1 \quad \omega ^0 \quad \sigma \\
\downarrow \quad \downarrow \\
\text{beal} \quad \text{it}
\]

Therefore, if one adopts the approach to English word-level suffixes shown in (14), *beal-ing* will end up being prosodified in the same way as *beal it*, and so prosody will be unable to explain the fact that /l/-darkening applies with greater frequency in the latter than in the former. One would then have to fall back on a procedural (cyclic) explanation: see §9.

The argument from variable /l/-darkening suggests that the prosodification shown in (14) is descriptively insufficient (though cf. Raffelsiefen 2005: 253-256); the evidence of gradient durational effects confirms that it is incorrect. It is a well-known fact that, in English, each of the members of a transparent compound forms a prosodic word by itself:

\[
\omega / \prime 1 \\
\downarrow \\
\omega ^0 \\
\downarrow \\
\text{rádio} \quad \text{státion}
\]

Given this fact, the approach to word-level suffixes outlined in (14) predicts that stems in word-level suffixal constructions will display the same patterns of gradient durational adjustment (resistance to polysyllabic shortening, liability to preboundary lengthening) as the first members of transparent compounds, since both occur in the environment \([\omega ^0 [\omega ^{\prime 1}] \ldots ]\). This prediction proves incorrect. In an experiment with nonce words, Sproat and Fujimura (1993) found no durational effects of stem-level suffixation (e.g. *beel-ic*) or word-level
suffixation (e.g. *beel-ing*) when compared with monomorphemic controls (e.g. *Beeli*), whereas the first members of compounds (e.g. *beel equator*) were consistently lengthened; see Sproat (1993: 178). A more recent study of Scottish English has detected a very small effect of word-level suffixation: the phonetic realization of the string /eːz/ appears to be slightly shorter in *raisin* [æːzn] than in *rais-ing* [æːzn] (Sugahara and Turk 2009). Nonetheless, this effect falls far below that of compounding: it is not statistically significant at ‘normal’ speech rates (Sugahara and Turk 2009: 496); it manifests itself as a 6.6% difference (mean of 23ms) at ‘slow’ speech rates (p. 496); and it reaches only 9.6% (mean of 42ms) at ‘extra-slow’ speech rates (p. 499). **Pace** Sugahara and Turkel (2009: 488), these findings are best understood as an effect of footing, rather than of recursive prosodic-word structure.\(^6\)

\[\begin{align*}
\text{(19)} & \quad \text{a. raisin} \\
& \quad \text{b. raise} \\
& \quad \text{c. rais-ing}
\end{align*}\]

\[\begin{align*}
\text{disyllabic foot} & \quad \text{but} & \quad \text{monosyllabic foot}
\end{align*}\]

Indeed, the idea that stray syllables affiliated to word-level suffixes attach directly to \(\omega\), as in (19c), instead of being footed, makes straightforward sense of the fact that, unless autostressed, word-level suffixes are stress-neutral.

The diagnostics that we have applied so far can be used to demarcate representational morphosyntactic conditioning from procedural morphosyntactic conditioning regardless of one’s particular theory of the latter. However, if one commits to a stratal-cyclic analysis of procedural morphosyntactic conditioning, then further demarcation criteria become available. One such criterion is cyclic locality: prosodic structure assigned in an early cycle can persist, and continue to affect the application of phonological processes, throughout later cycles; in contrast, the morphosyntactic structure visible during a phonological cycle ceases to be accessible in the next cycle (by so-called ‘Bracket Erasure’: see e.g. Orgun and Inkelas 2002: 116). Cyclic locality entails, for example, that the contrast between American English *càpi[t]alistic* and *mìli[t]aristic*

---

\(^6\) In (19a), Noun Extrametricality (Hayes 1982: 240) is implemented through the exclusion of the final syllable of the noun stem from the first foot-projection (\(\Sigma^0\)) and through its attachment under a second foot-projection (\(\Sigma^1\)).
must be mediated by prosody, as /t/-flapping is demonstrably phrase-level (see (36b) below) and so cannot access the internal morphological structure of words: see e.g. Davis (2005), Bermúdez-Otero and McMahon (2006: 403-4); cf. Steriade (2000).

5. Cyclicity vs OO-correspondence

Whilst phonologists generally agree that both representational and procedural morphosyntactic conditioning effects exist, as we saw in §1 and §4, there is currently no consensus on the best way to analyse procedural morphosyntactic conditioning. Within OT, the most popular alternative to the cycle is transderivational correspondence (e.g. Kenstowicz 1996, Benua 1997, Kager 1999, etc). This theory claims that morphosyntactically induced misapplication arises when high-ranking OO-identity constraints cause a transparently derived surface property of a given expression (the ‘surface base’) to be transmitted to the surface representation of some morphosyntactically related expression, where its presence is opaque. Thus, the underapplication of Belfast dentalization in fatt-er ['fatə'] (§2) would be analysed as follows:

\[(20)\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{A}_{\text{word}} \\
\text{A}_{\text{stem}} \\
\text{\textbar} \\
/fat/ \\
\text{IO-FAITH} \\
[\text{fat}] \\
\text{OO-IDENT} \\
[\text{fat}']
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{c}
\text{A}_{\text{word}} \\
\text{A}_{\text{stem}} \\
\text{\textbar} \\
/fat/ \\
\text{IO-FAITH} \\
[\text{fat}']
\end{array}
\]

transparent nonapplication of dentalization
underapplication of dentalization

The implementation of this solution poses a number of nontrivial technical challenges, such as motivating the selection of the surface base and preventing the satisfaction of OO-identity by means of overapplication in the base (i.e. transparent /fat-ə/ → *[fatə] leading to opaque /fat/ → *[fat]'); I return to these issues in §9 below.

At this point, however, I should like to compare the core predictions of cyclicity and OO-correspondence. The comparison is in fact easy, because both theories share a fundamental assumption:
Ultimate Transparency

If a phonological generalization \( p \) misapplies in the surface representation \( s \) of some linguistic expression, then \( p \) must apply transparently in some other representation \( r \), with which \( s \) is in direct or indirect correspondence.

The theory of the cycle predicts that \( p \) will apply transparently in some cyclic domain defined by some morphosyntactic constituent of the expression: the output of this cycle is connected with the surface representation by relationships of input-output faithfulness. In contrast, OO-correspondence predicts that \( p \) will apply transparently in the surface representation of some appropriately related linguistic expression; the two surface representations are linked to each other by means of transderivational correspondence. In sections §6 to §8 I adduce empirical evidence supporting the first prediction and challenging the second.

6. Phonologically masked bases (I): Quito Spanish /s/-voicing

Spanish has a voiceless alveolar fricative phoneme /s/. In the dialect spoken in Quito (Robinson 1979, Lipski 1989), /s/ is realized faithfully in the onset (22a), but displays contextual laryngeal allophony in the coda: coda /s/ surfaces as [s] before voiceless segments and utterance-finally (22b), and becomes [z] when followed by a voiced segment either in the same grammatical word or across a word boundary (22c).

(22) a. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Phoneme</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gasa</td>
<td>/gasa/</td>
<td>[ˈga.sa]</td>
<td>‘gauze’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ganso</td>
<td>/gaNso/</td>
<td>[ˈgan.so]</td>
<td>‘gander’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>da sueño</td>
<td>/da sueño/</td>
<td>[ˈda.’swe.no]</td>
<td>‘makes one sleepy’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>el sueño</td>
<td>/el sueño/</td>
<td>[ˈel.’swe.no]</td>
<td>‘the dream’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Phoneme</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rasco</td>
<td>/rasko/</td>
<td>[ˈras.ko]</td>
<td>‘I scratch’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas caro</td>
<td>/gas ka/FL027Eho/</td>
<td>[ˈgas.ka.ro]</td>
<td>‘expensive gas’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas</td>
<td>/gas/</td>
<td>[ˈgas.]</td>
<td>‘gas’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Surface</th>
<th>Phoneme</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>rasgo</td>
<td>/rasgo/</td>
<td>[ˈra.z.ú.o]</td>
<td>‘feature’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plasma</td>
<td>/plasma/</td>
<td>[ˈplaz.ma]</td>
<td>‘plasma’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas blanco</td>
<td>/gas blaNko/</td>
<td>[ˈgas.’blaŋ.ko]</td>
<td>‘white gas’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas noble</td>
<td>/gas noble/</td>
<td>[ˈgas.’no.βłe]</td>
<td>‘noble gas’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Coda /s/ undergoes voicing not only before voiced obstruents, but also before sonorants: e.g. plasma [ˈplaz.ma], gas noble [ˈgas.’no.βłe]. For our purposes, the crucial fact is that voicing overapplies to word-final prevocalic /s/:
On the surface, expressions like gas acre [ga.'za.kre] fail to meet the conditions for /s/-voicing: in gas acre, [z] surfaces in a presonorant environment, but not in the coda, for Spanish has a phrase-level process of resyllabification that moves word-final prevocalic consonants into the onset. In this position, therefore, the transparent realization of /s/ would be voiceless: cf. gasa [ga.'sa].

In a stratal-cyclic framework, the laryngeal allophony of Quito Spanish /s/ submits to the following analysis. First, the stem-level phonology allows output [s], but forbids output [z]: in an optimality-theoretic implementation, therefore, a hypothetical underlying /z/ present in the rich base would be unfaithfully mapped onto [s] in the stem-level output (see Bermúdez-Otero 2007d for an illustration of this strategy). At the word level, in turn, [s] remains unchanged if syllabified in the onset; in the coda, however, [s] loses its laryngeal node, becoming laryngeally unspecified [S]: see (24a). Finally, at the phrase level, input [s] is realized faithfully, whereas delaryngealized [S] acquires voice specifications either by leftward autosegmental spreading from an immediately following obstruent or by default: on the assumption that sonorants are not redundantly specified as [+voice], we can just say that [S] becomes voiced before sonorants in order to satisfy a positional constraint designating [+voice] as the unmarked feature in this particular context, whereas utterance-final [S] is assigned the context-free default specification [-voice]; see (24b). In this analysis, underlying /s/ becomes vulnerable to voicing if it finds itself in the coda in a word-level cycle and so loses its laryngeal node; the generalization is rendered opaque by phrase-level resyllabification.

---

7 This is confirmed, inter alia, by the fact that [r] undergoes optional emphatic trilling in canonical coda positions, but not word-finally before a vowel (James Harris 1983: 70-71): e.g. [mar]-[mar] ‘sea’, [ma.'n.e.u.ro]-[ma.'n.e.u.ro] ‘Black Sea’; but [ma.re.'xe.o] ‘Aegean Sea’, not *[ma.re.'xe.o].

8 Analysing the presonorant voicing of [S] as driven by a position-sensitive default, rather than by feature spreading from a following sonorant redundantly specified as [+voice], allows for a closer fit between this categorical phonological operation and the gradient phonetic processes of passive voicing on which it is grounded and from which it diachronically emerges (see below): passive voicing in environments such as that occupied by the /s/ in plasma involves lengthening of the voicing tail from the preceding vowel, rather than anticipation of glottal pulsing for the following sonorant (Jansen 2004).

As stated, the facts of Quito Spanish /s/-voicing pose a challenge to OO-correspondence (Colina 2006). This theory can explain the opaque voicing of onset /s/ in *gas acre* [ga.'za.kre] only by reference to a surface base containing a transparently voiced correspondent [z] in the coda. Many such expressions are found: e.g. *gas blanco* [gaz.'blan̩.ko], *gas noble* [gaz.'no.βle]. The problem, however, is that none of them bears a nonarbitrary morphosyntactic relationship to *gas acre* [ga.'za.kre], and so none can straightforwardly qualify as its base. If surface bases are selected by the containment criterion (Benua 1997: 28-29, Kager 1999: 215ff), the only plausible option is the citation form *gas* [gas], which consists of a subset of the morphs of *gas acre*; but this exhibits [s]. In contrast, *gas noble* [gaz.'no.βle], which contains the desired [z], has no better claim to being the base of *gas acre* than, say, *gas caro* [gas.'ka.ro], again showing [s]. Within inflectional paradigms some versions of OO-correspondence allow surface bases to be designated by arbitrary stipulation (e.g. Kenstowicz 1996: 387, 391), but this option is of no avail here, since expressions like *gas*, *gas acre*, and *gas noble* do not belong in an inflectional paradigm; see the discussion of surface base selection in Albright (this volume).

However, Colina (2009: 8-10) shows that OO-correspondence can avoid this problem by shifting part of the burden of description onto the phonetics. Colina suggests that, in Quito Spanish, delaryngealized coda [S] does not acquire categorical voice specifications during the phonological derivation either by autosegmental spreading or by default feature insertion; she claims, rather, that expressions like *gas acre* and *gas noble* merely display the effects of gradient passive voicing in phonetic implementation (Keating 1988). If Colina is right, then the surface phonological representation of *gas acre* is [ga.'Sa.kre], with overapplication of delaryngealization in the onset; but this can be analysed without difficulty as involving OO-correspondence with the citation form *ga*[S]: cf. (25) and (26).
Is Colina’s reanalysis correct? This question cannot be settled on *a priori* grounds: in particular, the fact that the environment for */s/-voicing in *gas acre* straddles a word boundary does not by itself warrant the conclusion that the process must be gradient rather than categorical. Electropalatographic studies have admittedly shown that many instances of assimilatory external sandhi involve gradient coarticulation (i.e. reduction, overlap, and blending of articulator gestures), rather than categorical assimilation (i.e. delinking and spreading of discrete phonological features): see e.g. Barry (1985), Wright and Kerswill (1989), Nolan (1992), Hardcastle (1995), and Zsiga (1995). However, there is also compelling evidence for the existence of categorical external sandhi. Holst and Nolan (1995) and Nolan, Holst, and Kühnert (1996) argue persuasively that at least some instances of */sʃ/ → */ʃ/ sandhi in British English do involve discrete feature delinking and spreading; the likelihood of categorical assimilation increases in the absence of the major prosodic boundary associated with a break between clauses. Ladd and Scobbie (2003) report that, in Sardinian, total anticipatory assimilation between singletons across word boundaries yields long consonants that are phonetically equivalent to underlying geminates. Ellis and Hardcastle (2002) examined inter- and intra-speaker variation in fast-speech */nʃk/ sandhi in British English, and found no fewer than four different idiolectal strategies:

(i) absence of accommodation between the two segments (in two out of ten subjects);
(ii) gradient coarticulation (in two out of ten subjects);
(iii) categorical assimilation (in four out of ten subjects);

and (iv) variation between categorical assimilation and absence of accommodation, with avoidance of coarticulation (in two out of ten subjects).

Crucially, type-(iv) speakers did not produce residual coronal gestures, but realized the nasal either without any tongue-tip raising at all or with full mid-sagittal linguoalveolar closure; this behaviour is inconsistent with gradient gestural reduction, but reflects the variable application of discrete feature delinking and spreading across word boundaries. Kochetov and Pouplier’s (2008: 414) Korean subjects exhibited the same behaviour in */tʃp/ and */tʃk/ sandhi. These findings clearly indicate that a process of external sandhi may apply gradiently for a speaker in some tokens, and still be categorical for other speakers, or for the same speaker in other tokens. It is therefore unsafe to relegate external sandhi to the phonetics without further argument.

Although instrumental evidence is lacking, Robinson (1979) and Lipski (1989) provide strong indirect evidence that, in many instances, word-final prevocalic */s/ does undergo categorical voicing in Quito Spanish. First, the process applies regularly in all registers
independently of speech rate: it ‘may be frequently observed even in slow, disconnected or interrupted speech’ (Lipski 1989: 53-54). Secondly, native speakers of the dialect rely on the difference between [s] and [z] to discriminate between minimal pairs like (23b): ba sido [a.’si.ðo] ‘hath been’ vs has ido [a.’zi.ðo] ‘hast gone’ (Robinson 1979: 136, 140-1; Lipski 1989: 55). Thirdly, word-final /s/ voicing can be used as a turn-holding device before hesitation pauses (Robinson 1979: 141). Robinson records the following example, where he describes the realization of the /s/ of es as ‘strongly voiced’:

\[
(27) \quad \text{es … tres …} \\
\quad \text{[ezːː ↘ tres:]} \\
\quad \text{‘it’s … uh … three …’} \quad \text{(Robinson 1979: 141)}
\]

It appears that the speaker intentionally produced a sandhi form of es to signal the fact that he or she had not reached the end of the utterance. Lipski (1989: 54) adduces further cases. For these reasons, Bradley and Delforge (2006: 39) conclude that the voicing of word-final prevocalic /s/ in Quito Spanish ‘reflects a phonological [+voice] specification’, as opposed to ‘gradient interpolation of glottal activity through the constriction period of phonetically targetless [S]’. This conclusion is incompatible with Colina’s (2009) answer to the questions that Quito Spanish /s/-voicing raises for OO-correspondence.

The cyclic derivations proposed in (24) can moreover be seen as the synchronic outcome of a simple series of commonplace diachronic innovations (§3). We may assume that, in an initial round of phonologization and stabilization, the lack of robust phonetic cues for laryngeal features in codas was reinterpreted as phrase-level coda delaryngealization. Analogical change then caused this process of coda delaryngealization to percolate up to the word level. Finally, a second round of phonologization and stabilization caused the gradient passive voicing of delaryngealized sibilants in presonorant contexts to be reanalysed as a categorical phrase-level process of context-specific default feature insertion.

7. Phonologically masked bases (II): English linking and intrusive r

Quito Spanish /s/-voicing is not an isolated case: it is not unusual for word-final prevocalic consonants to exhibit properties that are opaque in prevocalic position, but which nonetheless fail to match those of utterance-final consonants in citation forms. Linking and intrusive r in nonrhotic dialects of English provides another instance of this phenomenon. Again, a stratal-cyclic approach to the morphosyntax-phonology interface can easily deal with the facts, whereas OO-correspondence must shift some of the descriptive burden to a different component of the grammar: in this case, the theory of representations.
Most nonrhotic dialects of English (Wells 1982: 75-76, 218ff) allow [ɹ] in onset positions, such as word-initially or word-medially before a stressed or unstressed vowel (28a), but forbid [ɹ] in coda positions, such as word-medially or word-finally before a consonant or pause (28b,c).

(28)  

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a. rack | [ræk] | b. cart | [kɑːt], *[kɑːt]
| raccoon | [rəˌkɑːn] | car | [kɑː], *[kɑː] |
| carouse | [kɑːˌроʊz] | the car came | [dɑːˌkɑː ˈkɑːm], *[dɑːˌkɑː ˈkɑːm] |
| caramel | [ˈkærəməl] |

c. *CODA[ɹ]

* Coda

<p>| |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crucially, most nonrhotic dialects tolerate [ɹ] word-finally before a vowel, whether the consonant was present etymologically (‘linking ɹ’) or not (‘intrusive ɹ’).

(29)  

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. the car is new</td>
<td>[dəˌkɑː ˈmʌn.ˈnuː]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. the spa is new</td>
<td>[dəˌspa ˈmʌn.ˈnuː]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fact that linking and intrusive ɹ escapes the phonotactic ban in (28c) indicates that it surfaces in the onset. In English, however, word-final prevocalic ɹ (including linking and intrusive ɹ in nonrhotic dialects) exhibits lenition in comparison with canonical onset ɹ; the transcriptions above reflected this phenomenon by distinguishing between unlenited [ɹ] in (28a) and lenited [ɹ] in (29). Compared with word-initial [ɹ], word-final prevocalic [ɹ] displays the following properties:

(i) shorter duration (Cruttenden 2001: 289, Tuinman et al. 2007: 1905-6),
(ii) earlier timing of the tongue-root gesture (Campbell et al. 2010: 62),
(iii) smaller magnitude of the lip gesture (Wells 1990, Campbell et al. 2010: 63-64),
(iv) smaller magnitude of the tongue-tip gesture (Gick 1999: 47-49, Campbell et al. 2010: 63-64),
(v) greater magnitude of the tongue-root gesture (Campbell et al. 2010: 63-64),
(vi) greater intensity (McCarthy 1993: 179, Tuinman et al. 2007: 1905-6),
and (vii) higher F3 (Hay and Maclagan 2010).

---

10 John Harris (2006) reports that, in some Southern US dialects, [ɹ] is banned outside foot-initial onsets: e.g. véřy, sbéřiff, Cárólina.
Thus, dialects with intrusive $r$ afford minimal pairs such as the following (McCarthy 1993: 179):

(30)  
\begin{align*}
\text{a.} & \quad \text{saw eels} & [\text{sɔː_.iː.əz}] \\
\text{b.} & \quad \text{saw reels} & [\text{sɔː_.iː.əz}]
\end{align*}

If, as I have suggested, linking and intrusive $[i]$ escapes the phonotactic restriction in (28c) because it surfaces in onset position, just like word-initial $[i]$, then the reasons why the former undergoes lenition and the latter does not are not apparent on the surface: thus, $r$-lenition overapplies. However, this opaque pattern is easy to describe in stratal-cyclic terms (Kiparsky 1979: 437ff; McCarthy 1991: 203-4). Intrusive $r$ is inserted at the word level after $\omega$-final nonhigh vowels in order to satisfy the constraint $\text{FINAL C}$, i.e. $^*V_\omega$ (McCarthy 1991: 203, 1993: 176), which outranks $^*\text{CODA}[i]$ at the word level.\(^11\) In the same cycle, the inserted $r$ is targeted by coda lenition and undergoes a corresponding featural change: a plausible option, straightforwardly reflecting the early timing and increased magnitude of the tongue-root gesture in the phonetic realization of lenited $[i]$, is to have the Dorsal node replace the Coronal node as the designated primary articulator, notated with an asterisk in (31) below (after Kenstowicz 1994: 149). At the phrase level, however, the relative ranking of $\text{FINAL C}$ and $^*\text{CODA}[i]$ is reversed: in consequence, word-final $r$ undergoes deletion in preconsonantal and prepausal environments, but in prevocalic position it escapes into the onset, carrying with it the designation of Dorsal as primary articulator.

\(^{11}\) The idea that $r$-intrusion is driven by $\text{FINAL C}$ receives independent support from the absence of intrusive $r$ after reduced function words (which do not project an $\omega$-node) in the nonrhotic dialect of Eastern Massachusetts (McCarthy 1991: 200ff, 1993: 173ff). In the case of words ending with high vowels or closing diphthongs, we assume that $r$-intrusion is blocked by the final offglide, which suffices to satisfy $\text{FINAL C}$; alternatively, $\text{FINAL C}$ can be replaced with $^*V[-hi]_\omega$. If $r$-intrusion applies $\omega$-finally, then stem-level applications may be needed to generate forms like $\text{draw}[\text{i]}$-ing, for word-level suffixes like -ing are incorporated into the prosodic word of the stem, and not adjoined: i.e. $[\text{draw}]\rightarrow[\text{drawing}]$, not $[\text{draw}]\rightarrow[^*\text{[ω\_draw\_ing]}]$; see §4 above. If so, we may assume that listed allomorphy preëmpts stem-level $r$-intrusion in cases like $\text{algebr}[\text{s]}$-$\text{algebr}[\text{e}]$ic (McCarthy 1991: 196).
(31) a. Word Level: \textsc{F\textsc{inalc}} \gg \textsc{*\textsc{Coda}[a]}

\begin{align*}
\text{saw} & \quad \text{Reece} \\
\omega & \\
\Sigma & \\
\sigma & \\
\text{s} \quad \text{c} & \\
\text{Place} & \\
\text{Cor} \quad \text{*Dor} & \\
\end{align*}

b. Phrase Level: \textsc{*\textsc{Coda}[a]} \gg \textsc{F\textsc{inalc}}

\begin{align*}
\text{saw seas} & \quad \text{saw ease} & \quad \text{saw Reece} \\
\omega & \quad \omega & \quad \omega & \quad \omega \\
\Sigma & \quad \Sigma & \quad \Sigma & \quad \Sigma \\
\sigma & \quad \sigma & \quad \sigma & \quad \sigma \\
\text{s} \quad \text{c} \quad \text{i} \quad \text{z} & \\
\text{Place} & \\
\text{Cor} \quad \text{*Dor} & \\
\text{[sɔː.siːz]} & \\
\end{align*}

As in the case of Quito Spanish /s/-voicing (§6), this synchronic system can easily be understood as the product of a straightforward series of ordinary phonological changes:
(32) level processes manner manner is Anna Anna is

a. Initial stage.

WL [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə][ɪz]
PL [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

b. Phonologization and stabilization (I): lenition of [ɪ] in codas enters the phrase level.

WL [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə][ɪz]
PL lenition [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

c. Analogical input restructuring (I): lenition of [ɪ] in codas climbs up to the word level.

WL lenition [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə][ɪz]
PL lenition (vacuous) [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

d. Phonologization and stabilization (II): deletion of [ɪ] in codas enters the phrase level.

WL lenition [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə][ɪz]
PL deletion [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

e. Analogical input restructuring (II): analogical extension of word-level final [ɪ].

WL insertion, lenition [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə][ɪz]
PL deletion [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

The path for (32e) was smoothed by a general process of schwa apocope in Middle English (Minkova 1991). As a result of this, Early Modern English had relatively few words like Anna, with an underlying final /ə/. Thus, the rise of phrase-level r-deletion in codas brought about a situation in which most tokens of preconsonantal or prepausal [ə] alternated with prevocalic [æ]. In these circumstances, learners reanalysed phrase-level representations like [æ.nə] as derived by r-deletion from word-level [æ.nə].

(33) WL [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə][ɪz] [æ.nə]
    PL [mæ.nə] [mæ.nə.ɪz] [æ.nə] [æ.nə.ɪz]

In turn, this analogical extension of final [ɪ] across word-level outputs eventually resulted in a word-level ban of ω-final [ɔ], enforced where necessary by [ɪ]-insertion.

12 In this view, the analogical extension of final [ɪ] across word-level outputs can only have begun after variable r-deletion entered the phrase level, but it may well have been in progress before the application rate of r-deletion approached 100% (see Hay and Sudbury 2005).
This stratal-cyclic account of the diachronic rise and synchronic operation of r-intrusion avoids many of the pitfalls incurred by its best-known competitors. Rule-inversion scenarios resulting in a phrase-level hiatus-breaking rule of [i]-epenthesis in onsets (e.g. Vennemann 1972: 216, McMahon 2000: ch. 6, Bermúdez-Otero and Hogg 2003: 99ff) do not account for the lenited realization of intrusive r. In turn, restructuring scenarios in which /ɔ/ is replaced by /ə/ in underlying representations (e.g. Donegan 1993) fail to account for the regular and productive nature of r-intrusion (see the references in Heselwood 2009: 86). A regular process of [i]-epenthesis in ω-final position at the word level incurs neither problem.

Furthermore, the diachronic scenario outlined in (32) accords perfectly with the normal life cycle of phonological processes (§3). Both r-lenition ([i]→[j]) and r-deletion ([j]→∅) first entered the categorial phonology from below, as phrase-level processes applying across the board (32b,d). The analogical change causing lenition to climb up from the phrase to the word level (32c) proceeds by input restructuring: the lenited [j] in surface [PL.mæ.nə] is reanalysed as already present in the output of the word level. Moreover, r-lenition entered the grammar earlier than r-deletion (as must be the case, since the former is a precondition for the latter), and so has been exposed to analogical pressures for longer: it is therefore unsurprising that r-lenition should be more advanced in its life cycle than r-deletion, the former having reached the word level, the latter remaining at the phrase level.

In this light, the synchronic markedness reversal illustrated in (31) can be seen as arising from a clash between disparate diachronic forces: the high ranking of *CODA[i] at the phrase level reflects the phonologization of phonetic effects; in contrast, the high ranking of FINALC at the word level reflects the analogical restructuring of phrase-level inputs. If so, McCarthy’s (1993: 181-82) complaint of arbitrariness against his own previous stratal analysis (McCarthy 1991: 203-4) arguably betrays a failure to strike a proper balance between synchronic and diachronic explanation (cf. Bermúdez-Otero 1999: 98-107).

If this account is correct, then English linking and intrusive r raises difficulties for OO-correspondence. The segment’s lenited realization is opaque because there is no r-lenition in onsets. To explain the facts, OO-correspondence would need to find a surface base in which [i] occurred transparently, i.e. in the coda. Yet this is impossible, as the defining property of nonrhotic dialects is precisely that they do not allow r to surface outside the onset.

---

13 This progression from lower to higher levels correctly predicts that, diachronically, word-internal r-intrusion, as in draw-ing (see note 11), starts later than r-intrusion at word boundaries, as in draw in (see Hay and Sudbury 2005: 816-18, 820).
Yet, as in the case of Quito Spanish /s/-voicing, the proponents of OO-correspondence may deflect this argument by putting forward a transparent analysis of linking and intrusive [ژ]. McCarthy (1993: 178-81) does so by invoking ambisyllabicity (Kahn 1976). In this approach, linking and intrusive [ژ] is permitted to surface because it has an onset attachment, but it is lenited because it has a link to the coda too: cf. (31b) and (35).

In this sense, ambisyllabicity enables McCarthy (1993: 178-81) to conflate two stages of a cyclic derivation into a single representation—at the cost of a less restrictive theory of syllable structure.

However, ambisyllabicity incurs problems of its own and has been argued to provide an inconsistent account of English segmental allophony (e.g. Kiparsky 1979: 437ff, Jensen 2000, John Harris 2003). Bermúdez-Otero (2007c: §14-§24) notes two ambisyllabicity paradoxes. Since Kahn (1976), the standard diagnostic for ambisyllabification in English is /t/-flapping. In most North American dialects, /t/ undergoes flapping in two environments: foot-medially flapping in two environments: foot-medially between a vowel or /a/ and another vowel (36a), and word-finally between a vowel or /a/ and another vowel (36b).
Since the segmental conditions in these two environments are exactly identical, formulating two separate rules of flapping would miss a generalization. Accordingly, Kahn proposed that the two environments could be unified prosodically: in (36a) /t/ becomes ambisyllabic by Coda Capture, and in (36b) /t/ becomes ambisyllabic by Onset Capture.

(37) a. **Coda Capture**

b. **Onset Capture**

Thus, Kahn’s strategy was to use syllabification to channel the allophonic effects of both stress and word-boundaries. Yet this solution does not generalize to other English consonants. Consider, for example, /l/-darkening in the Midwestern American dialect studied by Sproat and Fujimura (1993). This dialect exhibits Kahn’s canonical pattern of /t/-flapping. By implication, /l/ too should display the same allophone, either clear [l] or dark [l], in foot-medial intervocalic position (e.g. Bee/l/ik) and in word-final intervocalic position (e.g. Bee/l/equates): /l/ should be ambisyllabic in the former by Coda Capture and in the latter by Onset Capture. As Sproat and Fujimura (1993: 308) themselves note in passing, however, this prediction proves false: X-ray microbeam cinematography revealed that their subjects produced clear [l], with the coronal gesture phased before the dorsal gesture, in Bee/l/ik, whereas they produced dark [l], with the dorsal gesture phased before the coronal gesture, in Bee/l/equates.
In this dialect, therefore, Kahn’s ambisyllabification rules work for /t/, but not for /l/. This is Bermúdez-Otero’s (2007c) first ambisyllabicity paradox. A second paradox arises from a conflict between /t/-flapping and prefortis clipping (Bermúdez-Otero 2007c: §21–§24); and Kiparsky (1979: 440) observes a third paradox, further discussed by Nespor and Vogel (1986: 93–94). By casting doubt on the existence of ambisyllabicity, these paradoxes challenge McCarthy’s (1993) transparent reanalysis of linking and intrusive r in (35).

In contrast, the English dialect described by Sproat and Fujimura poses no difficulties for a stratal-cyclic model with onset-maximal stem-level syllabification and resyllabification of prevocalic consonants in word-level and phrase-level cycles (Bermúdez-Otero 2007c: §18–§20). The right results follow from the operation of two word-level processes: one laxes /t/ in non-foot-initial position (Kiparsky 1979: 437ff, Jensen 2000, John Harris 2003); the other darkens /l/ in the coda. A full typology of English dialects supports the need to allow individual allophonic processes to target either weak positions in the syllable (i.e. the coda) or weak positions in the foot (i.e., in a trochaic system, anywhere outside foot-initial onsets). Notably, an innovative pattern of foot-based /l/-darkening (e.g. ye[l]ow, vi[l]age) is attested alongside the conservative syllable-based pattern: see Olive et al. (1993: 366) and Hayes (2000: 95–96) for American dialects, and Carter and Local (2007) for British dialects.

In sum, English linking and intrusive r raises the same problem for OO-correspondence as Quito Spanish /s/-voicing: both are patterns of external sandhi in which word-final prevocalic consonants display opaquely derived properties that are absent from citation forms. In both cases, OO-correspondence declines responsibility for the facts and shifts the burden of explanation either to phonetic implementation or to the theory of representations.

8. Nonsurfacing bases in noncanonical paradigms: Albanian stress

In the examples of morphosyntactically induced misapplication discussed in §6 and §7, the surface bases required by OO-correspondence are unavailable for phonological reasons: a phonological process applies normally in a nonfinal cycle C, but the output of C never surfaces transparently because it is always altered by the operation of subsequent phonological processes in later cycles. However, the output of C may also fail to surface unchanged for purely morphological reasons. This effect stands out with particular clarity in noncanonical inflectional paradigms, i.e. paradigms exhibiting phenomena such as deponency, defectiveness, suppletion, or heteroclisis (Corbett 2007). In such circumstances, the predictions of cyclicity and OO-correspondence diverge dramatically. Let two words a and b have identical syntagmatic structures in all relevant respects, but belong in paradigms with different sets of cells: one canonical, the other noncanonical. The theory of the cycle predicts that, in the phonology, a

---

14 Similarly, alongside the conservative pattern of syllable-based r-deletion in nonrhotic dialects, an innovative foot-based pattern has been detected in the South of the USA: see note 10 above.
and \( b \) must exhibit the same effects of procedural morphosyntactic conditioning (§1), since the course of cyclic derivations depends on syntagmatic structure alone (Bobaljik 2008: 32; Bailyn and Nevins 2008: 242). In contrast, OO-correspondence predicts the opposite, as transderivational identity effects depend on the availability of surface bases. On the basis of evidence from Albanian, Trommer (2006, 2009) argues that the first prediction is true, the second false. In this section I briefly summarize Trommer’s argument, omitting his detailed motivation of the morphological segmentations underpinning the analysis.

Trommer (2004) found that Albanian polysyllabic words bearing no overt inflection display end-stress in either of two cases:

(i) if the final syllable is headed by a nonmid vowel (i.e. by /i/, /u/, or /a/), as in (39a) and (39b),

or (ii) if the final syllable is both headed by a full vowel (i.e. by a vowel other than /a/) and closed by a consonant, as in (39b) and (39c);

otherwise, stress falls on the penultima, as in (39d) and (39e).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(39) a. } & [\text{ju.hа.'si}] \quad \text{‘linguistics’} & \text{d. } [\text{ho.le}] \quad \text{‘swing’} \\
& [\text{a.kо.'ku}] \quad \text{‘here and there’} & \quad [\text{ba.bo}] \quad \text{‘midwife’} \\
& [\text{ri.'dяa}] \quad \text{‘prayer’} & \quad [\text{ho.na}] \quad \text{‘moon’} \\
\text{b. } & [\text{ar.'mik}] \quad \text{‘enemy’} \\
& [\text{fi.'fut}] \quad \text{‘gipsy’} & \quad [\text{re.zul.'tat}] \quad \text{‘result’} \\
\text{c. } & [\text{a.'det}] \quad \text{‘habit’} & \quad [\text{a.fаr}] \quad \text{‘near’} \\
& [\text{pa.'tok}] \quad \text{‘gander’}
\end{align*}
\]

In wordforms containing overt inflectional markers, however, stress assignment often misapplies. Consider, for example, the present indicative of a verb with a canonical paradigm: \textit{formoj} ‘form’ (NACT denotes ‘nonactive’).
According to Trommer, metrical opacity arises in consequence of the fact that the domain of stress assignment is the stem, not the word: stress is assigned transparently in stem-level cycles, but is rendered opaque at the word level by the addition of inflectional suffixes and by regular internal sandhi at the stem-suffix juncture.

(41) a. Internal sandhi processes

(i) nn → n
(ii) j → ∅ / __h

b. Sample derivations

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c}
\text{SL} & \text{WL} & \text{WL} \\
\hline
\text{(stress assignment)} & \text{[for.'moj]} & \text{[for.'moj]} \\
\text{(internal sandhi)} & \text{[SL formo-j]} & \text{[SL formo-j]} \\
\end{array}
\]

Let us now turn to verbs with noncanonical paradigms. The verb *pendohem* ‘regret’, for example, exhibits deponency: it lacks a voice alternation, and its fixed lexical meaning is expressed by a series of nonactive forms. Crucially, the absence of nonactive forms entails that the location of stress is opaque throughout the present indicative.
This fits with the predictions of cyclicity: since the single series of forms of a deponent verb has the same syntagmatic structure as the nonactive series of a canonical verb, both must display the same pattern of metrical opacity; cf. (41b) and (43).

In contrast, OO-correspondence seems unable to account for the misapplication of stress assignment in the present indicative forms of Albanian deponent verbs: there are simply no suitable surface bases with transparent stress.
Thus, Trommer’s analysis suggests that morphologically induced misapplication depends on syntagmatic structure, not on the contents of paradigms.

In the case of Quito Spanish /s/-voicing, the advocates of OO-correspondence shifted the burden of explanation to phonetics (§6); in the case of English linking and intrusive r, to the theory of representations (§7). A similar escape manoeuvre in the case of Albanian stress might conceivably appeal to morphology, e.g. by claiming that stress assignment in Albanian verbs has been partly or wholly morphologized. Whatever the merits of such an argument, OO-correspondence will remain in an anomalous position until enough languages are found in which systematic patterns of morphologically induced phonological misapplication fail to hold in defective, deponent, suppletive, and heteroclitic paradigms.

9. Further challenges to OO-correspondence

The case studies presented in §6, §7, and §8 provide the most direct challenge to the theory of OO-correspondence: in all three cases, the necessary surface bases appear to be unavailable. However, transderivational theories face other questions, briefly noted in §5: what expressions can qualify as surface bases, and how are they selected? should OO-identity be symmetrical, base-prioritizing, or both? (see Albright: this volume). Whilst these problems have attracted a great deal of attention in the literature, the fact that OO-correspondence fails to preserve much of the corroborated empirical content of cyclic theory has generally prompted less discussion. One key instance is the Russian Doll Theorem (§3).

For example, (45) reports the incidence of /l/-darkening in three English dialects where the process has not yet become foot-based (i.e. where /l/ remains light in village: see §7).\(^{15}\) From this evidence one can reliably infer a pattern of diachronic evolution instantiating the Russian Doll Theorem: (45) is a perfect match for (12) and (13).

\(^{15}\) For RP, see Cruttenden (2001: 201). The dialect I have here labelled ‘Am1’ is the one described by Sproat and Fujimura (1993); see §7 above. For ‘Am2’, see Olive et al. (1993: 212-15). The implicational relationships implicit in (45) are confirmed by the rates of variation reported by Hayes (2000: 98): see (16) above.
In a transderivational analysis, however, the inevitability of the Russian-doll pattern disappears. For example, Hayes (2000: 102) proposes two separate OO-identity constraints to capture the facts in (45): Am1 shows an effect of high-ranking OO-IDENT(PHRASAL); Am2 shows effects of both OO-IDENT(PHRASAL) and OO-IDENT(MORPHOLOGICAL).

By factorial typology, however, these two constraints can generate an impossible dialect with [hiː, hi:.hn, hi:.lt], in violation of the Russian Doll Theorem. All that is needed is a constraint hierarchy of the following type:

\[
\begin{align*}
*\text{CODA}[l] & \gg \text{OO-IDENT(MORPHOLOGICAL)} \gg *[i] \gg \text{OO-IDENT(PHRASAL)}. \\
\end{align*}
\]

To avoid this result, Hayes (2000: 102) resorts to stipulating an innate fixed ranking in Universal Grammar:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{OO-IDENT(PHRASAL)} & \gg \text{OO-IDENT(MORPHOLOGICAL)}. \\
\end{align*}
\]

The explanatory loss is plain to see: whereas (11) was a corollary, (48) is an axiom.

It thus looks as if a great deal of work remains to be done before OO-correspondence can claim to have superseded the cycle.
References


