Write-up #2

Due **Thursday, May 4** by **12:00 noon** (start of final-exam period) in Canvas.

- Please **type** your paper and submit as **PDF** only.
- For help typing **IPA** symbols, see the "IPA Resources" page (also linked from the LING 200 web site home page) — or **copy/paste** from this document.

This assigment may be completed individually or in a group of two. Group assignments only need to be uploaded once (please include both names). **Collaboration** with anyone in the class for discussion and problem-solving is encouraged, but **writing** must be done independently (or in your group of two). See the "Course information and policies" document for the collaboration policy.

Use the Italian data set (on p 3) to answer the questions (on p 2).

Some notes:

About the write-up

- Answer each question clearly and completely. If you are asked to provide evidence for a claim, provide as many relevant examples from the data set as you can find.
- When you provide data to support a claim, give both the Italian forms and the glosses (translations). Organize data as a list or table (not as a paragraph!), with the items presented in a relevant or logical order.
- Phonological theory is a work in progress. Not all observed phenomena are equally easy to express in our current model of the phonological grammar. If you find that some aspect of your analysis is difficult to formalize in our current model, just give the best analysis you can and discuss what the remaining issues are.

About the Italian data

- The forms provided in the data set are all surface forms.
- IPA symbols: [r] is a voiced alveolar oral trill (liquid, sonorant).
  [ː] indicates that the preceding vowel is long.

  Note that [t͡s], [t͡ʃ], and [d͡ʒ] are affricates, not clusters — treat them as single consonants.

  For further information about unfamiliar consonants or vowels, refer to the "Feature charts" worksheet that was posted on Th Jan 26.

Questions for WU #2

(1) For each of the following syllable structure options, make the best argument you can for whether or not it is allowed in Italian. Whenever possible, support your claim(s) with well-organized evidence from the data set.

- onsetless syllables
- codas
- onset clusters
- coda clusters

Remember that syllable structure differs by language, and claims about syllable structure must be **explicitly justified**. It is useful to note that, in Italian words with penultimate stress (second syllable from the end), some stressed vowels are long (column A) and some are short (column B); this difference between long and short vowels is **predictable**.

(2) Propose an OT analysis of Italian syllable structure, **using only data from column (A)**. *(Your analysis does **not** need to make the vowels long/short; you may ignore vowel length in tableaus if that simplifies your discussion.)*

- Determine as many rankings as you can among the constraints Onset, NoCoda, NoOnsetCluster, NoCodaCluster, NoEpenthesis, and NoDeletion. (You may discover that not *all* constraints can be ranked with respect to each other on the basis of this data set; find as many rankings as you can.)
- Justify your proposed rankings by showing **ranking arguments** in OT tableau format. To do this, choose insightful items from the data set, generate **informative losers** for each tableau, and annotate your tableaus with w/l **marks**. For each tableau, state which constraint rankings it proves. In your tableaus, order the constraints from left (highest) to right (lowest), and avoid including candidates that are *not* informative.
- At the end of your discussion, summarize your proposed ranking in a **Hasse diagram** that includes only those rankings that you have proven.

(3) You should be able to find forms in **column (B)** for which the constraint ranking you proposed in question (2) makes **wrong predictions**.

- Find one such example from the data set and show, using a constraint tableau, that the current constraint ranking is not able to choose the correct output form. (Do not use w/l marks in this prediction tableau.)
- What phonological difference makes the forms in columns (A) and (B) behave differently? (Note: It is not the vowel length. The vowel length itself is predictable based on this other difference.)
- Improve the OT analysis so that it extends to column (B). For example, is a new constraint needed? If so, give it a formal definition (using the tools of our model) and show how it needs to be ranked with respect to the other constraints. Or, do the existing constraints need to be reranked? If so, show what the new ranking needs to be.

Data set for WU #2: Italian (Western Romance)

(A)			(B)		
	[páːpa]	‘pope’		[nésso]	‘connection, link’
	[papáːto]	‘papacy’		[fátto]	‘fact’
	[fáːto]	‘fate’		[páppa]	‘mush’
	[séːte]	‘thirst’		[sétte]	‘seven’
	[karóːta]	‘carrot’		[mantéllo]	‘overcoat’
	[fíːno]	‘fine, pure’		[gónna]	‘skirt’
	[múːza]	‘muse, inspiration’		[búrro]	‘butter’
	[káːpra]	‘goat’		[rítto]	‘upright’
	[djéːtro]	‘behind’		[páwra]	‘fear’
	[líːbro]	‘book’		[káwza]	‘cause’
	[káːblo]	‘cable’		[lájdo]	‘filthy, foul’
	[óːtre]	‘goatskin’		[mójne]	‘flattery’
	[máːdre]	‘mother’		[párlo]	‘I speak’
	[áːkre]	‘acrid, bitter’		[párko]	‘park’
	[sáːgra]	‘festival, feast’		[bélga]	‘Belgian’
	[ʧíːklo]	‘cycle’		[témpo]	‘time’
				[tórto]	‘wrong’
				[káldo]	‘hot’
				[románʦo]	‘novel’
				[albérgo]	‘hotel’
				[revísta]	‘magazine’
				[agósto]	‘August’