

Today's objectives:

- **Determining syllable “options”**
- **Epenthesis and deletion rules**

Background preparation:

- Handout: “...Describing syllabification options”
- PP: English loanwords in Korean

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Explain how our model represents syllable structure
- Find examples from a data set to determine how a given language sets the syllable structure “options”
- Apply the model to draw syllable trees that capture generalizations in a data set
- Use the tools of our model to write syllable-structure-based epenthesis and deletion rules

1. Warm-up and review

Discussion

- How does our model of the phonological grammar **represent** syllable structure?
 - What **entities** have we added to our model?
 - What are some principles for how these entities **behave** or **interact** in our model?

1. Warm-up and review

- Our model can now **represent** the syllable structure of words in a given language
 - First, we need to make a **proposal** for how segments are **associated** to syllables in the language, based on phonological evidence
 - Then, we can use our model to **describe** this structure using **syllable tree** notation
- We still need to add to our model how the grammar **builds** syllables (and enforces the “options”) → we’ll add this later!

1. Warm-up and review

- Many aspects of syllable structure are either:
 - the same in all languages
 - chosen from a very small range of possibilities
- This is unlike segmental rules, which seem to differ widely from language to language
- Therefore, our approach to modeling how languages form syllables will incorporate a limited set of **options** that languages choose from

1. Warm-up and review

- Our model of the phonological mental grammar currently includes...
 - A set of **features**
 - The concept of a **segment**, made up of features
 - Word boundary (#)
 - Phonological rules that manipulate features (called "**segmental rules**"): $A \rightarrow B / C _ D$
 - The concept of a **syllable (σ)**, made up of segments
 - Association lines to represent which segments are included in which syllables
 - The syllable positions **nucleus, onset, coda**
 - A set of universal, limited **syllable-structure options**

2. Syllable-structure options

- Our first step in analyzing syllable structure:
Observe and **describe** what syllable-structure patterns are possible out there in the world
 - Handout - "[...Describing syllabification options](#)"
- **In practical terms**, when working with a data set:
 - a) Use the available phonological **evidence** to determine how segments are assigned to syllables in the language
 - b) Make **generalizations** about **legal nuclei**, **onsets**, or **codas** in the language

2. Syllable-structure options

- What are the **syllable-structure options** in our model related to...
 - **Nuclei?**
 - **Onsets?**
 - **Codas?**
- What is the **default answer** to the questions on the options checklist, in the absence of evidence?
- If you're not sure, review the handout!

2. Syllable-structure options

Discussion

- Consider these English words. Which phonological structures does each one provide evidence for?

Onsetless syllable?	Onset cluster?	Coda?	Coda cluster?
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herb

string

match

2. Syllable-structure options

Debriefing

- Consider these English words. Which phonological structures does each one provide evidence for?

	Onsetless syllable?	Onset cluster?	Coda?	Coda cluster?
<i>herb</i>	Y	N	Y	N
<i>string</i>	N	Y	Y	<i>(depends on variety)</i>
<i>match</i>	N	N	Y	N

- What's a good way to **avoid** being fooled by spelling?

3. Determining options settings

Data set – English loanwords in Korean

- How can we **set** these syllable-structure options, based on parts A/B?
 - Onsetless syllables?
 - Onset clusters?
 - Codas?
 - Coda clusters?
- What examples provide **evidence**?

3. Determining options settings

Data set – [English loanwords in Korean](#)

- What is going on in part C?
 - Are we currently predicting the right pattern of epenthesis?
 - Do we need to add any settings to our list of “options”?
- What examples provide **evidence**?

4. Syllable-based epenthesis and deletion

- Similar patterns in the last few data sets!
 - Cairene Arabic: **Epenthesis** happens when...
 - Tibetan: **Deletion** happens when...
 - Korean loanwords: **Epenthesis** happens when...
- What **single generalization** can we make about the environment for all these epenthesis and deletion rules?
- How can our model of the mental grammar formalize this type of rule?

4. Syllable-based epenthesis and deletion

- What **single generalization** can we make about the environment for all these epenthesis and deletion rules?
 - Cairene Arabic: **Epenthesis** happens when...
 - Tibetan: **Deletion** happens when...
 - Korean loanwords: **Epenthesis** happens when...
...there is a consonant that **cannot be included in any syllable**

4. Syllable-based epenthesis and deletion

- Proposal: The mental grammar can **refer** to an unsyllabified segment
 - **Deletion** rule (no environment needed!)
 $C' \rightarrow \emptyset$
 - **Epenthesis** rule (what vowel is inserted here?)
 $\emptyset \rightarrow [-bk, +hi] / C' _$

5. Looking ahead — Next week

- *Monday:* Practice with syllable-structure restrictions
 - Prep questions will ask you to **upload syllable tree images**
 - You can upload a scan or photo of a hand drawing if you want, but **not HEIC/HEIF** (make a PDF of your image if you need to!)
- *Wednesday:* Discussion on scientific ethics
 - What is a “native speaker”, and what role should this concept play in linguistic research?
- *Friday:* **SC HW #3** is due by class time on Canvas