

Today's topics:

- **Factorial typology**
- **Segmental distribution**

Background preparation:

- McCarthy (2008), sec 2.8 (from last time)

0. Today's objectives

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

- Explain the importance of ROTB in an OT analysis of complementary distribution (*review*)
- Define factorial typology and use it to determine the typological predictions of a constraint set
- Assess our approach to complementary distribution using the predictions of factorial typology
 - Demonstrate and assess the patterns of segmental distribution that we predict

1. Warm-up: Predictable patterns and ROTB

- What is meant by **Richness of the Base** (ROTB)?

1. Warm-up: Predictable patterns and ROTB

- **Richness of the Base (ROTB):** There are no language-particular restrictions on input forms
 - If something is a possible input in one language (such as /CVC/), it is a **possible input in all languages**
 - **Hypothetical inputs**, that don't correspond to actual URs of the language, may be needed in order to **test** the grammar's ability to rule out ungrammatical forms
- **Predictable** info: **enforced by the grammar**
 - This means that predictable information is enforced by the **constraints** as they are **ranked** in a particular language

1. Warm-up: Predictable patterns and ROTB

- *Last time:* What are the implications of ROTB for patterns of **complementary distribution**?

1. Warm-up: Predictable patterns and ROTB

- What kind of **descriptive generalization** can we make about the Spanish data set in McCarthy (2008), sec 2.8, ex (30)?
 - Voiced fricatives appear after [+approx]
 - Voiced stops appear elsewhere
- *Last time*: Propose constraints analogous to those for Yoruba, Madurese nasalization patterns (p 91)
 - What ranking did we need for Spanish?
 - **Today's focus:**
What are the **cross-linguistic (typological) consequences** of proposing these constraints?

2. Review: ROTB & complementary distribution

- **Descriptive generalization**
 - Voiced fricatives appear **after** [+approx]
 - Voiced stops appear **elsewhere**
- What constraints did we propose to model this?

2. Review: ROTB & complementary distribution

- How can we make the right candidates win?

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| /aba/ | | | |
| (a) [aba] | | | |
| → (b) [aβa] | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| /βa/ | | | |
| (a) [βa] | | | |
| → (b) [ba] | | | |

- Note the key role of **ROTB** here

2. Review: ROTB & complementary distribution

- What constraints did we propose for modeling complementary distribution in Spanish?
 - **F** constraint on the allophone **difference**:
IDENT[±cont]
 - **M** constraint forcing **context-specific** allophone
***VD** 'assign one * for every **sequence** of segments [+approx] [-son, -cont, +voi]'
 - **M** constraint forcing the **elsewhere** allophone
***VOIFRIC** 'assign one * for every **segt** [-son, +cont, +voi]'

3. Factorial typology

- So far, we have focused on how to analyze the phonology of a single language using OT
- But: The OT analysis of one language **automatically makes predictions** about cross-linguistic phonological patterns (much more so than in rule-based phonology)
 - Why?

3. Factorial typology

- The OT framework includes the proposal that **constraints are universal**
 - Any constraint we introduce for the analysis of *one* language is automatically predicted to be included in the constraint set of *every* language
- Thus: The OT analysis of one language **makes predictions** about the range of possible cross-linguistic patterns

3. Factorial typology

- We can examine the **factorial typology** of a set of constraints to **determine its predictions**
(Prince & Smolensky 1993)
 - What is the *factorial typology* of a constraint set?
 - Why is it called that?

3. Factorial typology

- We can examine the **factorial typology** of a set of constraints to **determine its predictions**
(Prince & Smolensky 1993)
 - The factorial typology of a set of constraints is the set of **all rankings** of those constraints
 - If we have n constraints, there are $n!$ (“ n factorial”) ways to rank them
$$n! = (n) * (n-1) * (n-2) * \dots * 1$$
 - Question: To what extent can/should factorial typology **match** the typology of observed languages?
(→ see below)

3. Factorial typology

- Once we know the different possible rankings of a set of constraints, we can look at **what kinds of outputs will win** under each of the rankings

Reminder: This is a different way of using a tableau

- Until now, we have known the **input** and the **output**, and our goal was to determine what **ranking** was necessary to make that output win
- Now, we know the **ranking** and the **input**, and we want to know what **output** will be the winner

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- What is the **factorial typology** of these constraints?

IDENT[±CONT]

*VD 'assign one * for ... [+approx] [-son, -cont, +voi]'

*VOIFRIC 'assign one * for ... [-son, +cont, +voi]'

- How many **possible rankings** are there?

What are they?

- Given /ba/, /βa/, /aba/, and /aβa/, what wins under each of the rankings?

- What **distribution patterns** are predicted for the segments [b] and [β] under each ranking?

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- How many rankings are there for these three constraints? ***VD**, ***VoIFRIC**, **IDENT[±cont]**

3! = 6 rankings

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | *VD | » | *VoIFRIC | » | IDENT[±cont] | (= <i>Spanish</i>) |
| 2 | IDENT[±cont] | » | *VoIFRIC | » | *VD | |
| 3 | IDENT[±cont] | » | *VD | » | *VoIFRIC | |
| 4 | *VD | » | IDENT[±cont] | » | *VoIFRIC | |
| 5 | *VoIFRIC | » | *VD | » | IDENT[±cont] | |
| 6 | *VoIFRIC | » | IDENT[±cont] | » | *VD | |

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (1): *VD » *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont]
(this is the ranking for Spanish)

| /ba/ | *VD | *VoIFRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|------------|-----|----------|--------------|
| → (a) [ba] | | | |
| (b) [βa] | | *! | * |

| /aba/ | *VD | *VoIFRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|-------------|-----|----------|--------------|
| (a) [aba] | *! | | |
| → (b) [aβa] | | * | * |

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (1): *VD » *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont]
(this is the ranking for Spanish)

| /aβa/ | *VD | *VoIFRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|-------------|-----|----------|--------------|
| → (a) [aβa] | | * | |
| (b) [aba] | *! | | * |

| /βa/ | *VD | *VoIFRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|------------|-----|----------|--------------|
| (a) [βa] | | *! | |
| → (b) [ba] | | | * |

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (1): *VD » *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont]

(this is the ranking for Spanish)

- Outcomes:

/ba/ → **[ba]**

/βa/ → **[ba]**

/aba/ → **[aβa]**

/aβa/ → **[aβa]**

- Distribution:

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (1): *VD » *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont]

(this is the ranking for Spanish)

- Outcomes:

/ba/ → [ba]

/βa/ → [ba]

/aba/ → [aβa]

/aβa/ → [aβa]

- Distribution: **complementary** (predictable)

- Faithfulness is lowest — choice of /b/ vs. /β/ in input has *no influence*

- Context-specific M » context-free M — environment determines [b] vs. [β]

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- What about all the other candidates?
 - **Other constraints** » *VOIFRIC, ID[±cont] in Spanish
 - For the rest of **the** discussion, we will keep our focus on languages where such other constraints dominate the constraints under discussion
 - Why? Only because we are interested in **how constraints can predict distribution patterns between two segments** like [b], [β]
 - Other ways to satisfy *VOIFRIC, *VD are also predicted to occur! — that's just a separate discussion topic

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- What happens when we do the same thing for all the other rankings in this factorial typology?

| /ba/ | *VD | *V _{OI} FRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|----------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| (a) [ba] | | | |
| (b) [βa] | | * | * |

| /aba/ | *VD | *V _{OI} FRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|-----------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| (a) [aba] | * | | |
| (b) [aβa] | | * | * |

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- What happens when we do the same thing for all the other rankings in this factorial typology?

| /aβa/ | *VD | *V _{OI} FRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|-----------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| (a) [aβa] | | * | |
| (b) [aba] | * | | * |

| /βa/ | *VD | *V _{OI} FRIC | IDENT[±cont] |
|----------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|
| (a) [βa] | | * | |
| (b) [ba] | | | * |

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (2): IDENT[±cont] » *VOIFRIC » *VD
- Ranking (3): IDENT[±cont] » *VD » *VOIFRIC

- Outcomes:

/ba/ →

/βa/ →

/aba/ →

/aβa/ →

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (2): IDENT[±cont] » *VOIFRIC » *VD
- Ranking (3): IDENT[±cont] » *VD » *VOIFRIC

- Outcomes:

/ba/ → **[ba]**

/βa/ → **[βa]**

/aba/ → **[aba]**

/aβa/ → **[aβa]**

- Distribution:

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (2): IDENT[±cont] » *VOIFRIC » *VD
- Ranking (3): IDENT[±cont] » *VD » *VOIFRIC
 - Outcomes:

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|-------|---|--------------|
| /ba/ | → | [ba] | /βa/ | → | [βa] |
| /aba/ | → | [aba] | /aβa/ | → | [aβa] |
 - Distribution: **contrastive** (unpredictable)
Note the presence of “minimal pairs”!
 - Faithfulness is highest — input /b/ and /β/
both survive unchanged, no matter what
 - What is/are morpheme UR(s) here? Can we tell?

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (4): *VD » IDENT[±cont] » *VoIFRIC

- Outcomes:

/ba/ →

/βa/ →

/aba/ →

/aβa/ →

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (4): *VD » IDENT[±cont] » *VOIFRIC

- Outcomes:

/ba/ → **[ba]**

/βa/ → **[βa]**

/aba/ → **[aβa]**

/aβa/ → **[aβa]**

- Distribution:

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (4): *VD » IDENT[±CONT] » *VOIFRIC
 - Outcomes:
/ba/ → [ba] /βa/ → [βa]
/aba/ → [aβa] /aβa/ → [aβa]
 - Distribution: **neutralization**
Note “minimal pair” [ba] ≠ [βa], but /aba/ → [aβa]
 - *VD: ‘special’ segment in special context
 - Otherwise, faithfulness prevails
 - What is/are morpheme UR(s) here? Can we tell?

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (5): *VoiFRIC » *VD » IDENT[±cont]
- Ranking (6): *VoiFRIC » IDENT[±cont] » *VD

- Outcomes:

/ba/ →

/βa/ →

/aba/ →

/aβa/ →

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (5): *VOIFRIC » *VD » IDENT[±cont]
- Ranking (6): *VOIFRIC » IDENT[±cont] » *VD
 - Outcomes:

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|-------|---|--------------|
| /ba/ | → | [ba] | /βa/ | → | [ba] |
| /aba/ | → | [aba] | /aβa/ | → | [aba] |
 - Distribution:

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Ranking (5): *_{VoI}FRIC » *VD » IDENT[±cont]
- Ranking (6): *_{VoI}FRIC » IDENT[±cont] » *VD
 - Outcomes:

| | | | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|-------|---|--------------|
| /ba/ | → | [ba] | /βa/ | → | [ba] |
| /aba/ | → | [aba] | /aβa/ | → | [aba] |
 - Distribution: **“inventory gap”** (illegal segment)
Note that there is no [β] in any output ever
 - ‘Special’ segment is banned, regardless of context and regardless of input
 - This is how OT handles **absent** segments

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- **Summary** of rankings and distribution patterns:

| | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------------|
| (1) | *VD » *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont] | predictable |
| (2) | IDENT[±cont] » *COR-DORS » *VD | contrastive |
| (3) | IDENT[±cont] » *VD » *VoIFRIC | |
| (4) | *VD » IDENT[±cont] » *VoIFRIC | neutralization |
| (5) | *VoIFRIC » *VD » IDENT[±cont] | inventory gap |
| (6) | *VoIFRIC » IDENT[±cont] » *VD | |

Faithfulness | Context-specific M | Context-free M

4. Factorial typology of segmental distribution

- Implications of the OT approach to segmental distribution:
 - If some language has a context-specific allophone and a default (“elsewhere”) allophone...
 - ...which one is predicted to be an illegal segment in another language?
- Rule-based phonology cannot make this connection

5. Summary: Segmental distribution in OT

- General ranking for **predictable distribution**:
Context-specific M » Context-free M » F
- General ranking for **contrastive distribution**:
F » { Context-specific M , Context-free M }
- General ranking for **neutralization**:
Context-specific M » F » Context-free M
- General ranking for **inventory gap**:
Context-free M » { Context-specific M , F }
→ One lg's **specific allophone** is another lg's **gap!**

6. For next time

- Next time, we will look more carefully at **formalism** and **justification** for
 - Faithfulness constraints (see reading)
 - Markedness constraints (class discussion)