Enter search terms:

Home > HFA > LINGUIST > LINGUIST_FACULTY_PUBS > 84

Linguistics Department Faculty Publication Series

The gradual path to cluster simplification

John J. McCarthy, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Publication Date January 2008

Comments

Copyright Cambridge University Press. doi: 10.1017/S0952675708001486

Abstract

When a medial consonant cluster is simplified by deletion or place assimilation, the first consonant is affected, but never the second one: /patka/ becomes [paka] and not *[pata]; /panpa/ becomes [pampa] and not [panta]. This article accounts for that observation within a derivational version of Optimality Theory called Harmonic Serialism. In Harmonic Serialism, the final output is reached by a series of derivational steps that gradually improve harmony. If there is no gradual, harmonically improving path from a given underlying representation to a given surface representation, this mapping is impossible in Harmonic Serialism, even if it would be allowed in classic Optimality Theory. In cluster simplification, deletion or Place assimilation is the second step in a derivation that begins with deleting Place features, and deleting Place features improves harmony only in coda position.

Download

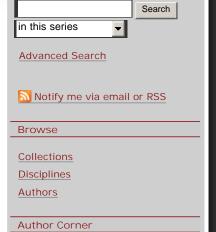
Find in your library

Included in

Follow

Phonetics and
Phonology Commons

SHARE



University Libraries
UMass Amherst

Contact Us

Author FAQ

Links





