

## Assignment #4: Lexical Phonology in (composite) Spanish

### Instructions

- Develop an analysis with OT or rules (your choice), using Lexical Phonology, of the phenomena below (nasal place, lateral place, [s]~[h] alternations, [j]~[ɣ] alternations, [r] ~ [r̄] alternations).
- This means you'll need to decide which morphology belongs to which level, and which process applies at which level.
  - We may make a teeny bit of progress on this in class already.

### Data note

- Main source is Harris 1983. Additional data from Baković 2000, Shepherd 2003, Editors of The American Heritage Dictionaries 1986, Wiktionary (wiktionary.org), and the *Diccionario del español de México* (dem.colmex.mx).
- The data here are from a composite, idealized dialect that has all 5 phenomena and applies them in a uniform way, and conserves certain contrasts that most dialects don't have.
  - I doubt there is any one Spanish speaker who speaks this way
  - If the idealization bothers you, imagine you're analyzing one fragment each of several varieties

### Tips

- Start by thinking about putting morphological operations and phonological operations on an equal footing:
  - figure out what orderings of phonological changes and morphological changes you need based on (counter){f,bl}eeding, etc., that you observe.
- Then, explain this ordering by assigning morphology and phonology to levels.
- Keep in mind that the output of the lexical component is a single word, so multi-word phrases don't get put together till after the lexical component.
- Also keep in mind that even if an utterance is only one word long, it still passes through the postlexical component.
- If you opt for OT, then to keep your writeup from getting too long, be selective about which candidates you show in a tableau.

### A. Place of articulation of nasals

- In some positions, there is a 3-way contrast among nasals:

1.	má.t-a	2.	ká.m-a
	bush- <i>fem</i>		bed- <i>fem</i>
3.	ná.t-a	4.	ká.n-a
	cream- <i>fem</i>		grey.hair- <i>fem</i>
5.	ɲá.t-a	6.	ká.ɲ-a
	snub.nosed- <i>fem</i>		cane- <i>fem</i>
7.	no words like	8.	no words like
	*ɲá.t-a		*ká.ɲ-a

- Within a morpheme, only certain sequences of *nasal*+*C* are allowed:

- |     |                                     |               |   |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 9.  | kám.p-o<br>countryside- <i>masc</i> | no words like | *káŋ.po<br>*kán.bo etc.                                 |
| 10. | kám.bj-o<br>change- <i>masc</i>     |               |   |
| 11. | kwán.to<br>how.much                 | no words like | *kwán.to<br>*kwám.to etc.                               |
| 12. | kwán.do<br>when                     |               |   |
| 13. | kán.s-o<br>tire-1 <i>sg.pres</i>    |               |   |
| 14. | en.lá.θe<br>bond                    |               |   |
| 15. | ón.r-a<br>honor- <i>fem</i>         |               |   |
| 16. | rán.tʃ̃-o<br>ranch- <i>masc</i>     |               | [ŋ] is post-alveolar (has same place features as [tʃ̃]) |
| 17. | án.k-a<br>haunch- <i>fem</i>        | no words like | *án.ka<br>*ám.ka etc.                                   |
| 18. | gán.g-a<br>sandgrouse- <i>fem</i>   |               |   |
| 19. | a.xén.x-o<br>wormwood- <i>masc</i>  |               |   |

- What about morpheme-final nasals?<sup>1</sup> When not followed by anything, they are always [ŋ]. But when another sound does follow, we see various interesting things happen:

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 20. | eŋ.#tʃ̃i.le<br>in Chile                      |
| 21. | e.ŋ#a.γóh.t-o<br>in August- <i>masc</i>      |
| 22. | siŋ.#di.né.r-o<br>without money- <i>masc</i> |
| 23. | u.ŋ#e.le.fán.te<br>a elephant                |
| 24. | taŋ.#frí.-o<br>so cold- <i>masc</i>          |
| 25. | koŋ.#lé.tʃe<br>with milke                    |
| 26. | e.ŋ#á.γw-a-h<br>in water- <i>fem-pl</i>      |

---

<sup>1</sup> This is one of the areas that actually varies across varieties of Spanish

				cf.	
				e.ná.ɣw-a-h	
				petticoat- <i>fem-pl</i>	
27.	páj bread	28.	pa.n-a.ðe.rí-a bakery- <i>fem</i>	29.	pá.n-eh bread- <i>pl</i>
				30.	el.#páj.#eh.#rí.k-o the bread is tasty- <i>masc</i>
				páj.#de.#trí.ɣ-o bread of wheat- <i>masc</i>	
31.	ko.mún common	32.	ko.mu.n-ál common-al	33.	ko.mú.n-eh common- <i>pl</i>
				34.	lo.#ko.mú.η#eh... the common[thing] is ...
				lo.#ko.mú.η#sí.ɣ-e... the common[thing] continue-3sg.pres ...	
35.	ra.món Ramón	36.	ra.mó.n-a Ramón- <i>fem</i> (Ramona)	37.	ra.mó.η#en.tr-ó Ramón enter-3sg.past
				ra.mó.η#dí.θ-e Ramón say-3sg.pres	
38.	dón Mr	39.	dó.η-a Mr- <i>fem</i> (Ms)	40.	dó.η#a.le.xán.dr-o Mr Alejandro- <i>masc</i>
				dón.#pé.ðr-o Mr Pedro- <i>masc</i>	
41.	deh.ðén disdain	42.	deh.ðé.η-eh disdain-2sg.pres.subj	43.	deh.ðé.n-eh disdain- <i>pl</i>
				44.	deh.ðé.η#i.#a.ro.ɣán.θj-a disdain and arrogance- <i>fem</i>
				deh.de.η-ár/r disdain- <i>infinitive</i>	
				deh.de.η-ó.s-o disdain-ful- <i>masc</i>	
				(no unsuffixed form exists)	
				45.	re.η-ír/r quarrel- <i>infinitive</i>
				rí.η-a quarrel- <i>fem</i>	
				ren.-θí.λ-a quarrel-diminutive- <i>fem</i>	
46.	a.ðáj Adam	47.	a.ða.m-íh.m-o Adam-ism- <i>masc</i>	48.	a.ða.n-eh Adam- <i>pl</i>
				49.	a.ða.η#i.#é.β-a Adam and Eve- <i>fem</i>
				a.ðáj#bwél.βe Adam return-3sg.pres	
				a.ða.m-i.k-o Adam-ic- <i>masc</i>	

50. a.réŋ harem  
 51. a.re.m-íh.t-i.k-o harem-ist-ic-masc  
 52. a.ré.n-eh harem-pl  
 53. a.ré.ŋ#eŋ.#tur.kía harem in Turkey  
 a.ré.ŋ.#del.#pa.lá.θjo harem of the palace

### B. Laterals

- Here are some similar data on [l] and [ʎ].<sup>2</sup> They contrast in some environments:

- |                                       |                                      |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 54. lá.m-a<br>slime-fem               | 55. ʎá.m-a<br>llama-fem              |
| 56. le.g-ár/r<br>hand.down-infinitive | 57. ʎe.g-ár/r<br>arrive-infinitive   |
| 58. ka.l-ár/r<br>soak-infinitive      | 59. ka.ʎ-ár/r<br>be.quiet-infinitive |
| 60. pó.l-o<br>pole-masc               | 61. pó.ʎ-o<br>chicken-masc           |

- But the contrast is neutralized in some environments, where they alternate with each other:

- (no unsuffixed form exists)
- |                            |                     |                                    |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 62. b'é.ʎ-o<br>pretty-masc | 63. don.θél<br>lad  | 64. b'e.ʎ-é.θ-a<br>pretty-ness-fem | 65. don.θé.l-eh<br>lad-pl  | 66. don.θé.l#eh.t-á.βa<br>lad be-3sg.imperf |
| 67. él<br>he               | 68. é.ʎ-a<br>he-fem | 69. él#éh<br>he be-3sg.pres        | don.θé.ʎ-a-h<br>lad-fem-pl |   |

**You don't have to explain why the plural is sometimes [-h] and sometimes [-eh].**

<sup>2</sup> [ʎ] has changed to [j] in most varieties, but it will make the analysis simpler to assume the more conservative [ʎ]

### C. [s] ~ [h] alternations

- [s] and [h] don't contrast. Here's some data on their distribution:<sup>3</sup>

70.	sá.l-a room- <i>fem</i>	71.	no words like *há.la
72.	só.p-a soup- <i>fem</i>	73.	no words like *hó.pa
74.	ká.s-a house- <i>fem</i>	75.	no words like *ká.h-a
76.	a.sá-r/r roast- <i>infinitive</i>	77.	no words like *a.há-r/r
78.	*més	79.	méh month
80.	*tós	81.	tóh cough

- Here's some data showing alternations between them.

82.	méh month		83.	mé.s-eh month- <i>pl</i>	84.	el#.mé.h#eh the month be-3 <i>sg.pres</i>
						el#.méh.#prók.si.m-o the month next- <i>masc</i>
85.	tóh cough	to.s-ér/r cough- <i>infinitive</i>	86.	tó.s-eh cough- <i>pl</i>	87.	to.h#eh.ta.θjo.n-ál cough season-al
						toh#sé.k-o cough dry- <i>masc</i>
		88.	tjé.n-e have-3 <i>sg.pres</i>	89.	90.	tjé.ne.#sá.la-h have-3 <i>sg.pres</i> room- <i>pl</i>
			tjé.n-eh have-2 <i>sg.pres</i>			tjé.n-e.h#á.la-h have-2 <i>sg.pres</i> wing- <i>pl</i>

### D. [j] ~ [ɣ] alternations

- [j] and [ɣ] don't contrast. Here's some data showing their distribution and alternations<sup>4</sup>.

91.	jó.ð-o iodine- <i>masc</i>	92.	no words like *jó.ð-o
93.	a.jér/r yesterday	94.	no words like *a.jér/r
95.	no words like *ój	96.	ój today

<sup>3</sup> This happens in most varieties of Spanish, but it's variable, and with a lot of sociolinguistic and geographic conditioning.

<sup>4</sup> Happens in many varieties but not all

- |     |                                 |      |                              |
|-----|---------------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| 97. | kre.-jén.do<br>believe-ing-masc | 98.  | ko.m-jén.d-o<br>eat-ing-masc |
| 99. | le.-jó<br>read-3sg.past         | 100. | ko.m-jó<br>eat-3sg.past      |

- Alternations with more morphology (sorry, no good source examples of derivational morphology):

- |      |                     |      |  |      |  |
|------|---------------------|------|--|------|--|
| 101. | kom.bój<br>convoy   | 102. | kom.bó.j-eh<br>convoy-pl   | 103. | el.#kom.bój#sí.γ-e<br>the convoy be-3sg.pres ...<br><br>el.#kom.bój#sí.γ-e<br>the convoy continue-3sg.pres |
| 104. | bwéj<br>steer       | 105. | bwé.j-eh<br>steer-pl   | 106. | el.#bwé.j#eh ...<br>the steer be-3sg.pres ...<br><br>el.#bwéj#βjé.ne<br>the steer come-3sg.pres            |
| 107. | léj<br>law          | 108. | lé.j-eh<br>law-pl  | 109. | la.#lé.j#eh<br>the law be-3sg.pres<br><br>la.#léj#del.#món.te<br>the law of.the mountain                   |
| 110. | áj<br>have.3sg.pres | 111. | a.j#ú.n-a<br>have.3sg.pres one-fem<br>cf.<br>a.jú.n-a<br>fast-3sg.pres |      |  |

### E. [r] ~ [ɾ] alternations

- [r] and [ɾ] contrast, but in some environments only one is possible, and in some environments there is only free variation between the two (no contrast):

- |      | <b>contrast</b>       |      | <b>only [r]</b>        |      | <b>only [ɾ]</b>          |      | <b>only free variation</b>          |
|------|-----------------------|------|------------------------|------|--------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|
| 112. | fó.r-o<br>forum-masc  | 113. | rá.pi.d-o<br>fast-masc | 114. | prá.ð-o<br>meadow-masc   | 115. | sa.l-ír, sa.l-ír<br>exit-infinitive |
| 116. | fó.r-o<br>lining-masc | 117. | rá.t-o<br>rat-masc     | 118. | brá.β-o<br>bold-masc     | 119. | már.teh, már.teh<br>Tuesday         |
| 120. | ká.r-o<br>dear-masc   | 121. | ré.t-o<br>dare-masc    | 122. | fráh.k-o<br>bottle-masc  | 123. | már, már<br>sea                     |
| 124. | ká.r-o<br>cart-masc   | 125. | rí.t-o<br>rite-masc    | 126. | trá.p-o<br>rag-masc      | 127. | ár.p-a, ár.p-a<br>harp-fem          |
| 128. | θé.ro<br>zero         | 129. | ró.t-o<br>broken-masc  | 130. | drá.ma<br>drama          | 131. | ár.βol, ár.βol<br>tree              |
| 132. | θé.r-o<br>hill-masc   | 133. | rú.t-a<br>highway-fem  | 134. | grá.t-o<br>grateful-masc | 135. | gár.fj-o, gár.fj-o<br>hook-masc     |
| 136. | pé.ro<br>but          | 137. | ón.r-a<br>honor-fem    | 138. | krá.ter/r<br>crater      | 139. | ár.m-a, ár.m-a<br>weapon-fem        |

- |                                   |                               |   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 140. pé.r-o<br>dog- <i>masc</i>   | 141. en.rí.ke<br>Enrique      | 142. ár.te, ár.te<br>art                                  |
| 143. mí.r-a<br>target- <i>fem</i> | 144. al.re.ðe.ðór/r<br>around | 145. ár.ð-e, ár.ð-e<br>burn-3 <i>sg.pres</i>              |
| 146. mí.r-a<br>myrrh- <i>fem</i>  | 147. ih.ra.él<br>Israel       | 148. fár.s-a, fár.s-a<br>farce- <i>fem</i>                |
|                                   |                               | 149. sár.n-a, sár.n-a<br>roe- <i>fem</i>                  |
|                                   |                               | 150. kár.loh, kár.loh<br>Carlos                           |
|                                   |                               | 151. már.tʃ-a, már.tʃ-a<br>march- <i>fem</i>              |
|                                   |                               | 152. ár.k-o, ár.k-o<br>weapon- <i>masc</i>                |
|                                   |                               | 153. lár.γ-o, lár.γ-o<br>long- <i>masc</i>                |
|                                   |                               | 154. sar.xén.t-o,<br>sar.xén.t-o<br>sergeant- <i>masc</i> |

▪ Here's some data on alternations

- |                                  |  |                                   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 155. a.mór/r<br>love             | 156. a.mo.r-ó.s-o<br>love-ous- <i>masc</i> | 157. a.mó.r-eh<br>love- <i>pl</i> | 158. el.#amó.r#eh...<br>the love be.3 <i>sg.pres</i> |
|                                  | a.mo.r-í.o<br>'love affair'                |                                   |  |
| 159. rá.t-a<br>rat- <i>fem</i>   |  |                                   | 160. la.#rá.t-a<br>the rat- <i>fem</i>               |
| 161. tó.r-o<br>bull- <i>masc</i> | 162. to.r-é.r-o<br>'bullfighter'           |                                   |  |
| 163. tó.re<br>tower              | 164. to.r-é.r-o<br>'lighthouse keeper'     |                                   |  |
| 165. már/r<br>sea                | 166. ma.r-í.n-a<br>navy-?- <i>fem</i>      | má.r-eh<br>sea- <i>plura</i>      | 167. már/r.#βér/r.ðe<br>sea green                    |
|                                  | mar-é-a<br>'tide'                          |                                   | már/r.#traŋ.kí.l-o<br>sea tranquil- <i>masc</i>      |
|                                  |  |                                   | má.r#a.θúl (*má.r#a.θúl)<br>sea blue                 |

## References

- Baković, Eric. 2000. Nasal place neutralization in Spanish.  
 Editors of The American Heritage Dictionaries (ed.). 1986. *The American Heritage Larousse Spanish Dictionary*. Houghton Mifflin.

- Harris, James. 1983. *Syllable Structure And Stress in Spanish: a Nonlinear Analysis*.. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
- Shepherd, Michael. 2003. Constraint interactions in Spanish phonotactics: an Optimality Theory analysis of syllable-level phenomena in the Spanish language.. California State University, Northridge master's thesis.