

Allophonic Emergence: three ways allophonic rules come to be

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Introduction

An introductory thing about allophonic emergence. We will argue that there are 3 different types, and provide some things about things.

Outline

Introduction

Three paths to allophony

- Mechanical Means

- Spontaneous Phonologization

- Phonological Specialization

 - Example: GOOSE-fronting in New Zealand English

Testing for the types

- Effect of duration



Mechanical Means

Traditionally assumed scenario ??

- A **mechanical**, subgrammatical effect skews the distribution of outputs perceived by the learner
 - Articulatory
 - Perceptual



Mechanical Means:

Preaspiration in NW England English

Explanation of preaspiration in NW England English



Spontaneous Phonologization

Scenario proposed by (Joseph and Janda, Fruehwald)

- Speakers **spontaneously** create an allophone without any phonetic motivation.
 - Allophonic categories emerge in individual speakers' grammars before any phonetic motivation

Spontaneous Phonologization:

PRICE-raising in Philadelphia English (Fruehwald 2013)

Example about /ay/ raising in Philadelphia English



Phonological Specialization

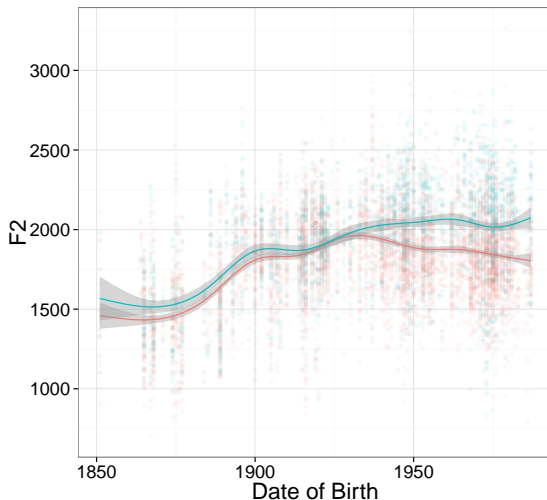
Proposed by us!

- A phonetic change begins, creating variation in phonetic space
- This variation is reanalyzed as an allophonic distinction for a generation of speakers
 - how it's different from Ohala, RBO
 - How it's different from JJ, Frueh



Phonological Specialization:

GOOSE-NEW split in New Zealand English (Seyfarth and Sneller 2014)



Effect of duration

Explanation about how we expect an effect of duration for phonetic differences

Effect of duration

Mechanical means

- Because the allophonic split is the result of accruing phonetic effects, we should see a gradual decrease in the effect of duration over generational time
- Other things
- hope this is in a block

Conclusions

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- Within syntax, only one formal account of optionality is available, the same one that accounts for language change: Competing Grammars.
- This results in replacement, specialization, or stable variation (true optionality).
- The latter is (only) the result of mapping categorical variation onto a continuous dimension of specialization.
- An acquisition simulation shows how stable variation can emerge under a minimal Principle of Contrast.
- It is possible and desirable to extend this formal account to other domains of variation, like morphology and phonology.