LING 20 Homework 2

Charles Zhang
Collaborated with: Victoria Delk

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Problem 1

Using the IPA, please transcribe the following passages as they are pronounced in the audio file `assignment-2-audio.wav`, which you can find on CCLE. You must use the IPA transcription system for English that we developed in class.

a) "Her expression grave, Auri eyed the laurel fruit. It was every bit as reverent as one might expect, but it was prideful too."

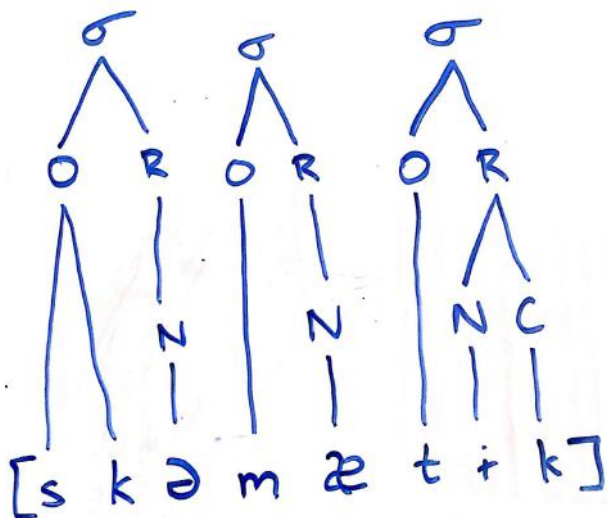b) "The old cargo dirigible wallowed over the mountains, and moored in at the airport on Kidney Mountain."
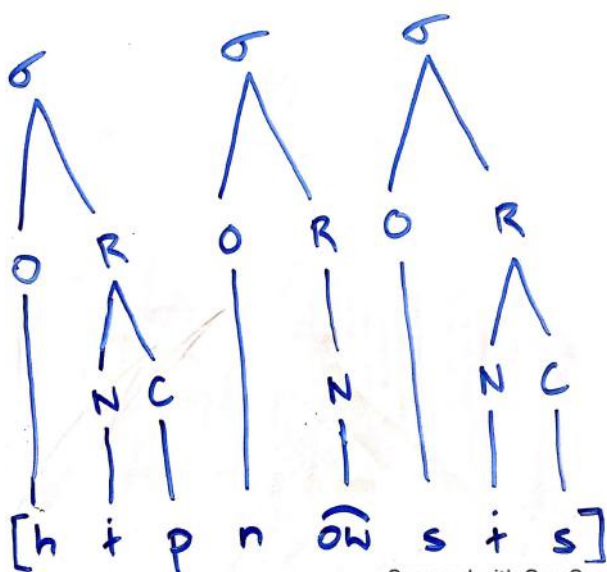
Problem 2

Please show how the syllabification algorithm syllabifies each of the following words.

Note: You do not have to show the individual steps in the syllabification process, only the final output of the algorithm, including the nuclei, onsets, codas, rhymes, and syllables.
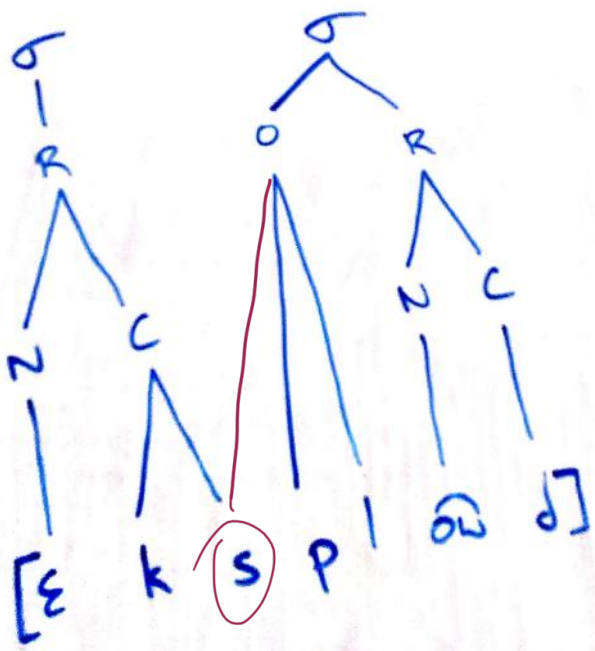
a) [skəmætɨk]

b) [hɨpnowsɨs]

c) [ɛksplowd]

d) [aɪθɹajtis]

e) [fɹʌstɹejt]

σ diagram showing syllable structure:

First syllable: σ → O, R
- O branches to [f ɹ ʌ]
- R → N → [s t ɹ]...

Second syllable: σ → O, R
- O branches to [s t ɹ]
- R → N, C
- N → [ej]
- C → [t]
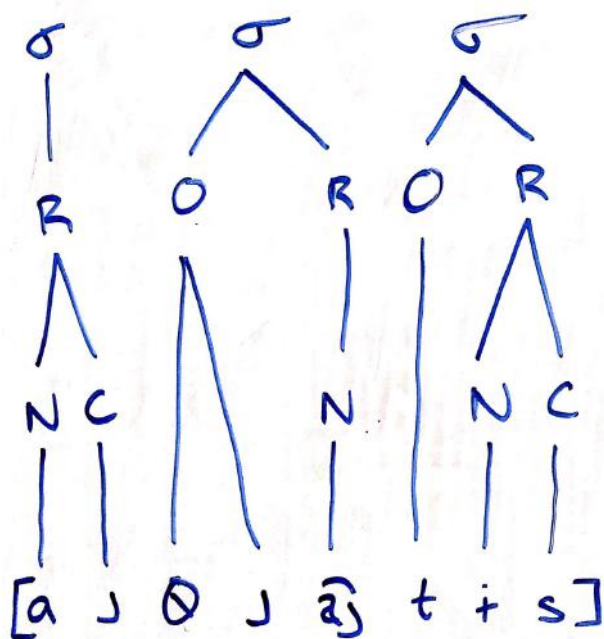
Full transcription: [f ɹ ʌ s t ɹ ej t]
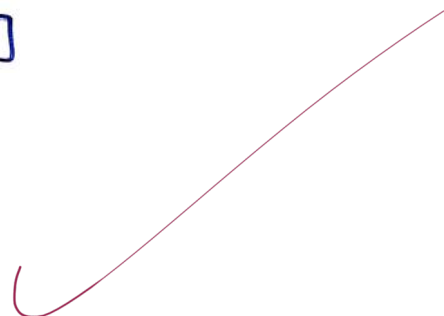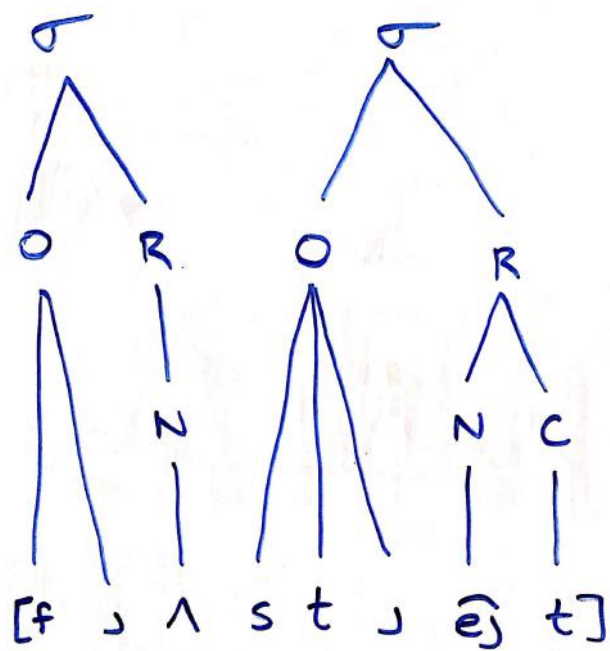
Problem 3

For each of the following lists of sounds, please state which articulatory property or combination of properties the sounds in that list have in common that no other sound in Common American English shares. For example, if the list were "[p], [b], [m], [t], [d], [n], [ɾ], [k], [ɡ], [ŋ], [ʔ]", the answer would be "stop", because these sounds are all stops, and there are no other stops in Common American English besides these.

a) [ʊ], [ɔ], [ʌ]

| back lax vowels |

b) [v], [z], [ʒ], [ð]

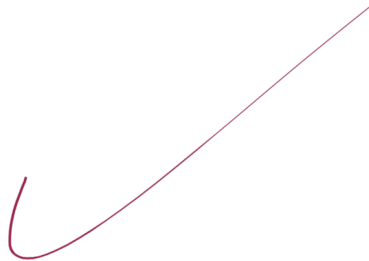| voiced fricatives |

c) [l], [ɹ], [w], [j]

| voiced approximants |

d) [p], [b], [m], [f], [v], [w]

| labials |

e) [l], [ɹ]

| alveolar approximants |

Problem 4

This last part is an exploratory exercise designed to give a first-hand preview of our next unit on phonological analysis. As such, it is a new kind of exercise. It uses made-up data to make easier your first introduction to doing phonological analysis.

Below is a list of words from Narnian. Please compare and describe the distribution of [ʃ] and [s] in these data by completing the two tasks below.

[kæsɑ]	'cat'	[ɑntekʃi]	'excuse me'
[kuʃi]	'six'	[ukʃi]	'one'
[kæsu]	'hand'	[posæ]	'father'
[ʃe]	'it (subject)'	[ʃetæ]	'it (object)'
[olæsa]	'would be'	[miʃi]	'where'
[ɑsu]	'orange'	[kæsri]	'however'

Task 1: Make a list of the phonological environments that [ʃ] and [s] occur in. In other words, list the sound immediately before and the sound immediately after each instance of [ʃ] and [s] in the data. Use the pound sign (#; perhaps better known nowadays as the hash symbol) to represent silence at the beginning and end of words. The '__' represents the position of the sound in question.

[ʃ]	[s]
k_i	æ_ɑ
u_i	æ_u
k_i	o_æ
#_e	æ_a
#_e	ɑ_u
i_i	æ_r

Task 2: There is a pattern in the distribution of [ʃ] and [s] that should emerge from the lists that you just made. In no more than one sentence, please (informally) describe what the pattern is.

[ʃ] only appears preceding [i] and [e], and [s] appears anywhere else.