

 *Fairies land only at midnight* 
on laryngeal sonorant/vowel roots in Korean

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INTERACTION OF
GRAMMATICAL
BUILDING BLOCKS

Overview

- ☞ A class of **sonorant/vowel final verb roots**, “Fairy Roots”, shows seemingly disparate quirky patterns.
- ☞ These patterns can be captured in a unified way with assuming underlying **floating features** and stratal OT.
- ☞ The floating feature creates a laryngeal sonorant that is present only **at an intermediate level** of the derivation (Duke-of-York).
- ☞ Accounts with simpler representations face severe problems.

Data

Laryngeal contrasts

- Korean has a three-way distinction in terms of laryngeal contrast in obstruents.
 - This contrast is neutralised in coda position.

- Vowels and sonorants do not show such contrasts on the surface!

Vowel Fairy Roots

- Vowel final roots generally do not affect the plain obstruent initial suffixes (3-a) (4-a).
- Fairy roots  idiosyncratically induce laryngeal contrasts onto these suffixes (3-b,c) (4-b,c).

- (3) a. /na-ta/ → [na.t_a] 'occur'
 b. /na[?]-ta/ → [na.t'a] 'get.better' 
 c. /na^h-ta/ → [na.t^ha] 'give.birth' 
- (4) a. /na-ko/ → [na.k_o] 'occur'
 b. /na[?]-ko/ → [na.k'o] 'get.better' 
 c. /na^h-ko/ → [na.k^ho] 'give.birth' 

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c. /na^h-ta/ → [na.**t^h**a] ‘give.birth’ 

- (4) a. /na-ko/ → [na.**k**o] ‘occur’

b. /na[?]-ko/ → [na.**k'**o] ‘get.better’ 

c. /na^h-ko/ → [na.**k^h**o] ‘give.birth’ 

Sonorant Fairy Roots

- Sonorant-final roots may be fairy roots , as well.
- However, they are more restricted (cf. Albright and Kang (2009)):

- (5) a. /al-ta/ → [al.ta] ‘know’
 b. /al^h-ta/ → [al.t^ha] ‘suffer’ 

- (6) a. /an[?]-ta/ → [an.t'a] ‘hug’ 
 b. /an^h-ta/ → [an.t^ha] ‘do.not’ 

- (7) /kam[?]-ta/ → [kam.t'a] ‘wind’ 

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Puzzles

Fusion

- The inflectional affix -ə/-a/-jə optionally fuses with a preceding vowel (cf. Jun and Albright (2017)).

- (8)
- a. /o-a/ → [wa] ‘come.INFL’
 - b. /p^hi-ə/ → [p^hjə] ‘blossom.INFL’
 - c. /na-a/ → [na] ‘occur.INFL’

Blocking of fusion

➤ If this affix attaches to a fairy root , fusion is blocked.

- (9)
- a. /co^h-a/ → [co.a] *[cwa] ‘good.INFL’
 - b. /i[?]-ə/ → [i.ə] *[jə] ‘tie.INFL’
 - c. /na[?]-a/ → [na.a] *[na] ‘get.better.INFL’
 - d. /na^h-a/ → [na.a] *[na] ‘give.birth.INFL’

Geminations

- Allomorph-less sonorant-initial affixes geminate, if attached to a fairy root. 

- (10) a. /po-ni/ → [po.ni] ‘see.Q’
 b. /mək-ni/ → [mək.ni] ‘eat.Q’

- (11) a. /co^h-ni/ → [con.ni] ‘be.good.Q’ 
 b. /na[?]-ni/ → [nan.ni] ‘get.better.Q’ 
 c. /na^h-ni/ → [nan.ni] ‘give.birth.Q’ 

Allomorph selection 1

- Fairy roots  unexpectedly select the elsewhere allomorph ‘simnita’.

- (12) a. /po/- {mnita, simnita} → [pom.ni.ta] ‘see.FORM’
 b. /mək/-{mnita, simnita} → [mək.sim.ni.ta] ‘eat.FORM’

- (13) a. /co^h/-{mnita, simnita} → [co.sim.ni.ta] ‘be.good.FORM’
 b. /na[?]/-{mnita, simnita} → [na.sim.ni.ta] ‘get.better.FORM’
- 
- 

Allomorph selection 2

➤ More unexpected allomorph selection by fairy roots  can be observed with the elsewhere allomorph ‘*in*’.

- (14) a. /po/-{n, in} → [pon] ‘seen’
 b. /mək/-{n, in} → [mə.kin] ‘eaten’

- (15) a. /co^h/-{n, in} → [co.in] ‘been.good’ 
 b. /na[?]/-{n, in} → [na.in] ‘got.better’ 

Interim Summary

(16)

Roots	-C	fusion	allomorphy	gemination
V	-C	✓	✓	✗
V ^h	-C ^h	✗	✗	✓
V [?]	-C'	✗	✗	✓
l	-C	—	✓	—
l ^h	-C ^h	—	✗	—
n [?]	-C'	—	✓	—
n ^h	-C ^h	—	✓	—
m [?]	-C'	—	✓	—
C	-C'	—	✓	—

Interim Summary

(17)	Roots	-C	fusion	allomorphy	gemination
	V	-C	✓	✓	✗
	V ^h	-C ^h	✗	✗	✓
	V [?]	-C'	✗	✗	✓
	l	-C	—	✓	—
	l ^h	-C ^h	—	✗	—
	n [?]	-C'	—	✓	—
	n ^h	-C ^h	—	✓	—
	m [?]	-C'	—	✓	—
	C	-C'	—	✓	—

All the nasal-final roots are fairy roots! 

Proposal

Representation

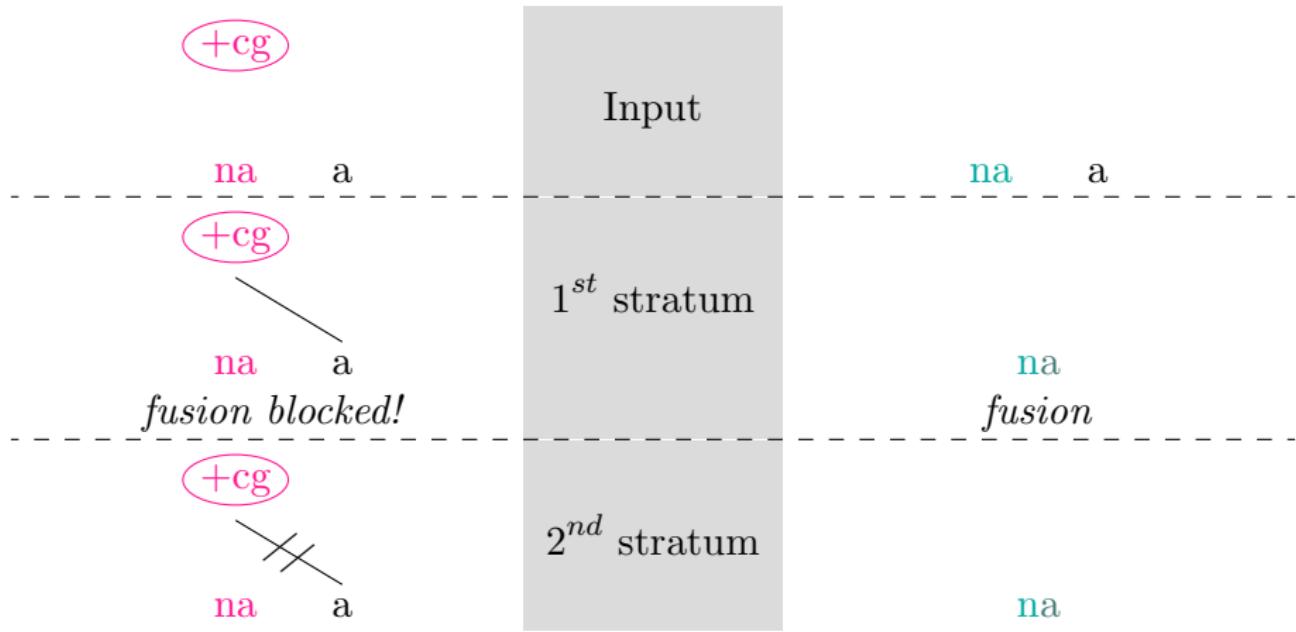
- We propose that a floating laryngeal feature (+F) is a part of the underlying representation of fairy roots .

(18)	/na ^{+sg} /	(19)	/na ^{+cg} /	(20)	/na/
	'give.birth'		'get.better'		'occur'

Derivation

- We derive the three puzzles with a feeding/bleeding Duke-of-York gambit (Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo 2001).
- in the first stratum the floating feature
 - ★ docks to any affix.
 - ★ influences allomorph selection.
 - ★ blocks fusion.
 - ★ induces gemination.
- in the next stratum
 - ★ the laryngeal specification is neutralised.

Sample Illustration



Assumptions

- Stratal OT (Kiparsky, Paul 2000; Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo 2001).
- Floating Features (Zoll 1993, 1996) .

Analysis

Constraints

➤ *FLOAT

Assign * to every feature F that is not linked to a root node •

➤ ALTERNATION

Assign * to every epenthetic association line between elements having the same morphological affiliation

cf. Morphological Colour Revithiadou (2007); ?)

➤ DEP •

Assign * to every epenthetic root node •

➤ *V^{?/h}

Assign * to every vowel root node linked to [+cg]/[+sg]

Stem-level Optimization

$T_1.$ Stem-level,

MAXF, *FLOAT \gg *V^h

I: co (+sg) - a	MAXF	*FLOAT	DEP •	ALTER	*v([+sg][-sg])	*V.V	*V ^h
O ¹ : co(+sg)a		*!				*	
O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

➤ *v([+sg][-sg])

Assign * to every nucleus linked to opposite values of [\pm sg]

(cf. Kehrein, Wolfgang and Golston, Chris (2004))

➤ *V.V

Assign * to adjacent heterosyllabic vowels

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O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

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O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha				*!			
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h					*!		**
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O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
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O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

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O ¹ : co(+sg)a		*!				*	
O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

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(cf. Kehrein, Wolfgang and Golston, Chris (2004))

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Stem-level Optimization

T₁. Stem-level,

MAXF, *FLOAT >> *V^h

I: co (+sg) - a	MAXF	*FLOAT	DEP •	ALTER	*v([+sg][-sg])	*V.V	*V ^h
O ¹ : co(+sg)a		*!				*	
O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

➤ *v([+sg][-sg])

Assign * to every nucleus linked to opposite values of [±sg]

(cf. Kehrein, Wolfgang and Golston, Chris (2004))

➤ *V.V

Assign * to adjacent heterosyllabic vowels

Stem-level Optimization

T₁. Stem-level,

MAXF, *FLOAT \gg *V^h

I: co (+sg) - a	MAXF	*FLOAT	DEP •	ALTR	*v([+sg][-sg])	*V.V	*V ^h
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O ² : co.a ^h						*	*
O ³ : cwa	*!						*
O ⁴ : co.ha			*!				
O ⁵ : cw ^h a ^h				*!			**
O ⁶ : cwa ^h					*!		*

At the stem level the laryngeal contrast can survive on any suffixes, even if they are Vowel/Sonorant.

Word-level Optimization

T₂. Word-level

*V^h >>MAXF

I: co.a ^h	*V ^h	MAX(σ)	*V.V	MAXF
O ¹ : co.a ^h	*!			
☒ O ² : co.a			*	*
O ³ : cwa		*!		*

➤ MAX(σ): Assign * to every input syllable which is not present in the output

At the word level the laryngeal specification is neutralised.

Word-level Optimization

T₂. Word-level

*V^h >>MAXF

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O ¹ : co.a ^h	*!			
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O ¹ : co.a ^h	*!			
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Duke-of-York Gambit

(21)

<i>co(+sg)-a</i>	UR	ABC
<i>coa^h</i>	Feature Docking	ABD
<i>cannot apply</i>	Fusion	—
coa	Feature Deletion	ABC

Stem level: Gemination

$T_3.$ Stem-level,

I: co(+sg)-ni	$S^h \rightarrow \mu$	DEP μ	$*S^h$
O ¹ : co.n ^h i	*!	-	*
☞ O ² : con ^h _μ i		*	**

- $S^h \rightarrow \mu$: Assign * to every laryngeally specified sonorant node which is not moraic
- Assumption: Geminates are moraic, whereas coda consonants are not moraic (There is no evidence for moraicity of codas).

Stem level: Gemination

$T_3.$ Stem-level,

I: co(+sg)-ni	$S^h \rightarrow \mu$	DEP	μ	$*S^h$
O ¹ : co.n ^h i	*	!		*
☞ O ² : con ^h _μ i		*		**

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Stem level: Gemination

T₃. Stem-level,

I: co(+sg)-ni	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.n ^h i	*!	-	*
☞ O ² : con ^h _μ i		*	**

- S^h → μ: Assign * to every laryngeally specified sonorant node which is not moraic
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Stem level: Gemination

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I: co(+sg)-ni	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.n ^h i	*!	-	*
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Stem level: Gemination

$T_3.$ Stem-level,

I: co +sg -ni	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.n ^h i	*!		*
☒ O ² : co n _μ i		*	*

At the stem level, a geminate with laryngeal specification is optimal.

Stem level: Allomorph selection {in, n}

T₄. Stem-level, allomorph selection

I: co(+sg) {in, n}	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*V.V	*V ^h	*S ^h
O ¹ : co. ^h in			*	*	
O ² : con ^h	*!				*
O ³ : con ^h _μ		*!			**

Stem level: Allomorph selection {in, n}

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I: co(+sg) {in, n}	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*V.V	*V ^h	*S ^h
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O ² : con ^h	*!				*
O ³ : con ^h _μ		*!			**

Stem level: Allomorph selection {mnita, simnita}

T₅. Stem-level, allomorph selection

I: co(+sg) {mnita, simnita}	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*V.V	*V ^h	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.s ^h im.ni.ta					
O ² : com ^h .ni.ta	*!				*
O ³ : com _μ ni.ta		*!			**

Stem level: Allomorph selection {mnita, simnita}

T₅. Stem-level, allomorph selection

I: co(+sg) {mnita, simnita}	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*V.V	*V ^h	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.s ^h im.ni.ta					
O ² : com ^h .ni.ta	*!				*
O ³ : com _μ ^h ni.ta		*!			**

Stem level: Allomorph selection {mnita, simnita}

T₅. Stem-level, allomorph selection

I: co(+sg) {mnita, simnita}	S ^h → μ	DEP μ	*V.V	*V ^h	*S ^h
O ¹ : co.s ^h im.ni.ta					
O ² : com ^h .ni.ta	*				*
O ³ : com ^h _μ ni.ta		*			**

Could our analysis get simpler?

Argument for floating features

- Our representation:

(22) /na^{+sg}/ (23) /na^{+cg}/ (24) /na/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

Argument for floating features

➤ Our representation:

- (22) /na^{+sg}/ (23) /na^{+cg}/ (24) /na/
- 'give.birth' 'get.better' 'occur'

➤ Alternative representation:

- (25) /nah/ (26) /na?/ (27) /na/
- 'give.birth' 'get.better' 'occur'

Argument for floating features

- However, Korean has no intervocalic /h/-deletion:

(28)	a.	/ihon/	→	[i. hon] ‘divorce’
				*[i. on]
	b.	/co h -a-hæ/	→	[co. a .hæ] ‘like.TR’
				*[co. ha .hæ]
				*[co. a .æ]

Argument against indexed constraints

- In this approach, morpheme specific phonology is derived by lexically indexed constraints (e.g. Benua (1997b,a))
- Alternative Representation:

(29) /na_A/ (30) /na_B/ (31) /na_C/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

Argument against indexed constraints

➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ 'give.birth' (33) /na_B/ 'get.better' (34) /na_C/ 'occur'

➤ Necessary Constraints:

Argument against indexed constraints

➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

➤ Necessary Constraints:

- ★ *VC_{A,B}: No plain obstruent in this context

Argument against indexed constraints

➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

➤ Necessary Constraints:

- ★ *VC_{A,B}: No plain obstruent in this context
- ★ *VC'_A: No glottalised obstruent in this context

Argument against indexed constraints

➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

➤ Necessary Constraints:

- ★ *VC_{A,B}: No plain obstruent in this context
- ★ *VC'_A: No glottalised obstruent in this context
- ★ *VC^h_B: No aspirated obstruent in this context

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➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
‘give.birth’ ‘get.better’ ‘occur’

➤ Necessary Constraints:

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- ★ *VC^h_B: No aspirated obstruent in this context
- ★ UNIFORMITY_{A,B}: No fusion in this context

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- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
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- ★ *VC^h_B: No aspirated obstruent in this context
- ★ UNIFORMITY_{A,B}: No fusion in this context
- ★ S → μ_{A,B}: Gemination of sonorants in this context

Argument against indexed constraints

➤ Alternative Representation:

- (32) /na_A/ (33) /na_B/ (34) /na_C/
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- ★ *VC_{A,B}: No plain obstruent in this context
- ★ *VC'_A: No glottalised obstruent in this context
- ★ *VC^h_B: No aspirated obstruent in this context
- ★ UNIFORMITY_{A,B}: No fusion in this context
- ★ S → μ_{A,B}: Gemination of sonorants in this context
- ★ ...

➤ In addition, allomorph selection should be able to have an access to the indices.

Argument against cophonology

- In this approach, morpheme specific phonology is derived by morpheme specific rankings (e.g. Orgun (1996, 1998); Inkelas (1998)).
- Alternative Representation:

(35) /nah/
‘give.birth’

(36) /naʔ/
‘get.better’

(37) /na/
‘occur’

Problem for cophonology

- Default Constraints ranking: MAX ≫ *VhV
- Constraints ranking for A: *VhV ≫ MAX

(38)

Input		Output	Ranking
coh-A	→	co.A	*VhV ≫ MAX
co.a-ha	→	co.a.ha	MAX ≫ *VhV
co.a.ha-A	→	*co.a.a.æ	*VhV ≫ MAX

Problem for cophonology

- Default Constraints ranking: MAX ≫ *VhV
- Constraints ranking for A: *VhV ≫ MAX

(38)	Input	Output	Ranking
	coh-A	→ co.A	*VhV ≫ MAX
	co.a-ha	→ co.a.ha	MAX ≫ *VhV
	co.a.ha-A	→ *co.a.a.æ	*VhV ≫ MAX

- Still, bleeding of coalescence remains mysterious.

Conclusion

Summary

- We found a new generalisation on how laryngeal contrast of Korean S/V verbal roots affects the paradigm.

Summary

- We found a new generalisation on how laryngeal contrast of Korean S/V verbal roots affects the paradigm.
- We provided the evidence for a floating feature that in combination with strata accounts for the observed opacity.
 - ★ The floating feature docks to the affixes, which changes the laryngeal specification.
 - ★ The laryngealised S/V behaves differently for some processes and allomorph selection.
 - ★ At the next level, this contrast is neutralised, unlike on the obstruents, rendering the previous processes opaque.

Implications

- Our work contributes to the discussion of whether Duke-of-York derivations are parts of human language capacity (Bermúdez-Otero, Ricardo 2001; Rubach 2003; Gleim 2018; Rasin 2019).
- Our analysis is also compatible with Yun (2008)'s proposal of strata in Korean and extends the noun-verb asymmetries observed by her.

Contact Information

. Thank you! .

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l-deletion

- Korean does not tolerate lateral-nasal clusters (i.e., *NL, *LN).
 - ★ NL → NN ~ LL
 - ★ LN → ØN (only at the stem level)

l-deletion

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 - ★ NL → NN ~ LL
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- (39) a. /inlju/ → [il.lju] ‘mankind’
 b. /koŋljɔŋ/ → [koŋ.njɔŋ] ‘dinosaur(s)’

(40) a. /al-ni/ → [a.ni] *[al.ni] ‘know.Q’
 b. /kal-næ/ → [ka.næ] *[kal.næ] ‘grind.CGR’

l-deletion

➤ Lateral fairy roots resist /l/-deletion .

- (41) a. /al-ni/ → [a.ni] * [al.ni] ‘know.Q’
 b. /al^{+sg}-ni/ → [al.ni] * [a.ni] ‘suffer.Q’

Stem level: l-deletion

$\text{AGREE}_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$, MAX-F $\gg *S^h$

T₆. Stem-level /al/

I: al-ni	AGREE $_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$	MAX	MAX-F	*S ^h
O ¹ : al.ni	*!			
☒ O ² : a.ni		*		

T₇. Stem-level /al^{+sg}/

I: /al ^{+sg} -ni/	AGREE $_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$	MAX	MAX-F	*S ^h
☒ O ¹ : al.n ^h i			*	
O ² : al.ni	*!		*	
O ³ : a.ni		*	*!	

- AGREE $_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$: Count one violation for each pair of adjacent voiced consonant that has a different value for the feature [± nas]

Word level: l-deletion

$*S^h \gg \text{AGREE}_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}, \text{MAX-F}$

T₈. Word-level /al/

I: a.ni	$*S^h$	MAX	$\text{AGREE}_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$	MAX-F
O ¹ : a.ni				
O ² : a.i		*!		

T₉. Word-level /al^{+sg}/

I: al.n ^h i	$*S^h$	MAX	$\text{AGREE}_{[+vc]}^{[\pm nas]}$	MAX-F
O ¹ : al.n ^h i	*!			
O ² : al.ni			*	*
O ³ : a.ni		*!		*

Allomorphy of *v*

- All existing nasal-final roots are fairy roots.

(42)

Roots	-C
 n?	-C'
 n ^h	-C ^h
 m?	-C'

- Post-nasal Laryngealisation is not general rule in Korean nor in verbal domain.

- (43)
- a. /kam-nin-ta/ → [kam.nin.ta] ‘wind-PROG-DECL’
 - b. /kam-ta/ → [kam.t'a] ‘wind-DECL’

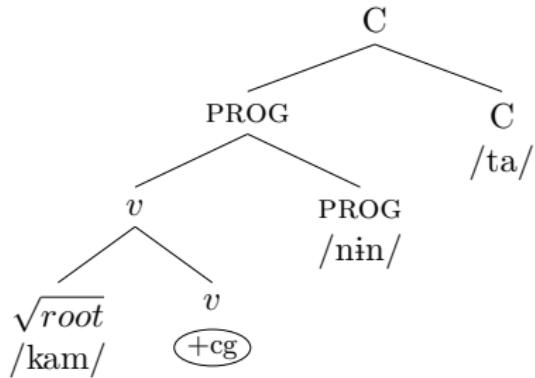
Hypothesis

> Hypothesis:

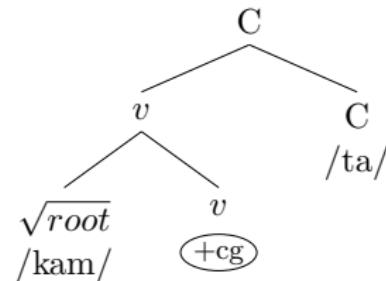
Little *v* has two allomorphs: (+cg) and Ø.

> *v* - (+cg) selects nasal-final roots.

(44)



(45)



Evidence from a pilot wug test

- 3 native speakers of Korean were participated in this pilot test.
- The test consisted of two parts:
 - ★ the participants learn three nasal-final wug stems with corresponding videos.
i.e., /him/, /pin/, /uj/
 - ★ the participants are asked to answer different inflected forms (i.e., /-taka/, /-ko is'ə/) of wug verbs.

Evidence from a pilot wug test

- The participants learn three nasal-final wug stems with corresponding videos.

Q: 고양이가 뭐 해? Play

‘What does the cat do?’



Evidence from a pilot wug test

- The participants learn three nasal-final wug stems with corresponding videos.

A: 고양이가 흄어. Play

‘The cat /him/s.’



Evidence from a pilot wug test

- The participants are asked to answer different inflected forms (i.e., /-taka/, /-ko is'ə/) of wug verbs.

Q: 고양이가 뭐 하고 있어? Play

‘What is the cat doing?’



A: 고양이가 _____

Prediction: [him.k'o i.s'ə]



Results the pilot wug test

	Speaker A		
wug stems	/him/	/pin/	/unj/
/-taka/	[him.t'a.ka]	[pin.t'a.ka]	[unj.t'a.ka]
/-ko is'ə/	[him.k'o]	[pin.k'o]	[unj.k'o]

	Speaker B		
wug stems	/him/	/pin/	/unj/
/-taka/	[him.t'a.ka]	[pin.t'a.ka]	[unj.t'a.ka]
/-ko is'ə/	[him.k'o]	[pin.k'o]	[unj.k'o]

	Speaker C		
wug stems	/him/	/pin/	/unj/
/-taka/	[him.t'a.ka]	[pin.t'a.ka]	[unj.t'a.ka]
/-ko is'ə/	[him.k'o]	[pin.ko]	[unj.k'o]

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