

## **Phonological and morphophonological alternations**

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The traditional distinction into phonological and morphophonological alternations which was eliminated in generative studies needs to be re-introduced. Phonological alternations result from phonological regularities which establish a direct relation a phonological process and a context where it occurs. Morphophonological alternations embrace a whole gamut of cases from full productive replacements in morphologically specified contexts, through lexical relatedness representing tendencies and preferences to lexically isolated cases. The different types of alternations also translate into distinct mechanisms of their expression. Morphophonological regularities are fundamentally segmental operations which despite their occasional in expressibility in phonological terms must not be formulated in such terms. Diachronic developments indicate that morphophonological relations are kept distinct from phonological ones.