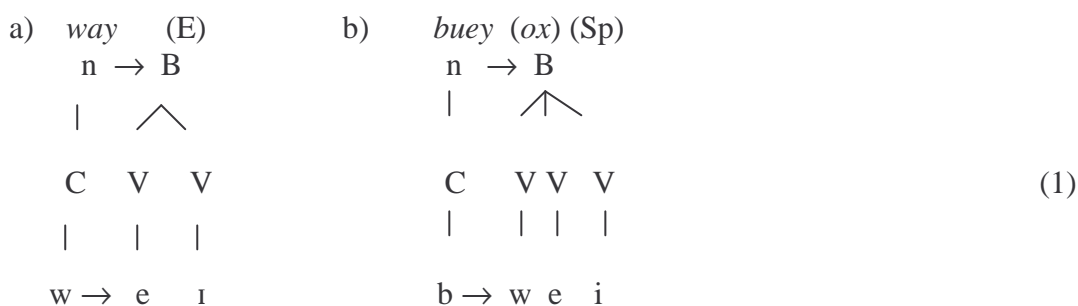


### Selected English and Spanish phonotactic preferences in B&B model

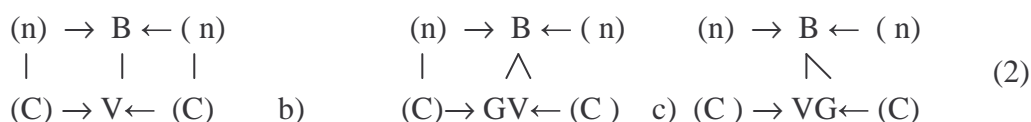
Małgorzata Haładewicz-Grzelak (Technical University of Opole)

The aim of the present paper is to attempt at a functional explanation of some phonological processes occurring in contemporary Spanish and contrast them with similar phenomena in English within Beats-and Binding model. The phonotactic preferences obtaining in the respective languages will be interpreted as a result of level 2 and 3 manifestations of level 0 and 1 underlying preferences. The driving force of level 2 and 3 preferences is assumed to lie on the level 0 and 1 of language typology – Spanish belonging to the group of Non Prototypical Beat Timed languages and English – Prototypical Stress Timed languages.

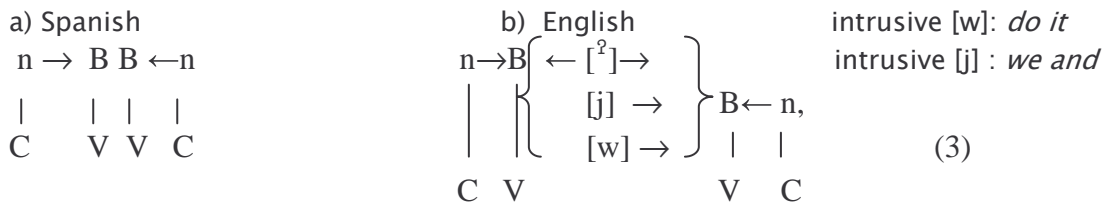
The examination of contrastive data conducted without making reference to the concept of ‘syllable’ yielded new insights into the nature of semivowels in respective languages, which eventually undermined the notion of ‘diphthong’ as a viable term in B&B. The proposed representation for semivowel clusters in the respective languages is as follows:



The preferred beat representations in Spanish within B&B model could be shown in a following scheme:



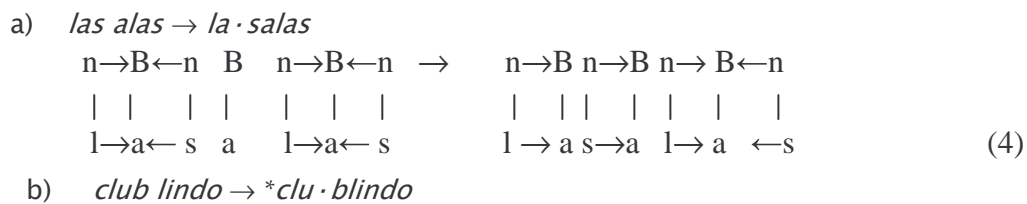
The vowel contact at hiatus representations:



The paper includes also the explanation of some assimilatory processes obtaining in both languages, such as progressive and regressive voice assimilations, nasal assimilation in Spanish and the assimilation of /s/ preceding /r/, where both word-medially and across words /s/ is completely or partially assimilated preceding /r/, yielding the multiple trill version of the phoneme:

The re-parsing phenomenon in Spanish was also re-analyzed, resulting in the formulation of the Reparsing Preference:

*In word-final consonantal re-parsing the number of bindings of the affected foot should preferably be preserved.*



The derivation as in (4b) would result is the loss of u-b binding, since the consonants in clusters do not bind. The process is nonexistent in English since B←n binding in that language is stronger than B←n in Spanish.

Summarizing, the contrastive analysis of phonotactics, when conducted within multi-layered coherent method, which is the functional B&B model, enables conclusions which are vital as both the phonological insights, and as useful hints for FLT.

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