

What Constraints Should OT Allow?

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1. Why bother asking?

Suppose we had a set **Con** of core constraints for phonology—simple mechanisms that could be used to build up all the basic phonological phenomena. What would it look like?

- (1) Identifying such core constraints is at the center of the OT program:
 - “The danger, therefore, lies in . . . clinging to a conception of Universal Grammar as little more than a loose organizing framework for grammars. A much stronger stance, in close accord with the thrust of recent work, is available . . . *Universal Grammar can supply the very substance from which grammars are built: a set of highly general constraints, which, through ranking, interact to produce the elaborate particularity of individual languages.*” (Prince & Smolensky 1993, p. 198)
 - (see also Smolensky 1995, Green 1994)
- (2) Some clearly *bad constraints* (but what makes them bad?):
 - a. PALINDROMIC: The candidate reads the same backwards as forwards.
 - b. FTQUINT: Feet are quintary (5 syllables or moras).
 - c. MEMBEROF(*a, aardvark, aardvarks, aardwolf, aardwolves, Aaron . . .*): Candidate must be in the specified set of surface forms.
 - d. MATCHESOUTPUTOF SPE: The output matches the result of applying Chomsky & Halle (1968) to the input.
- (3) Some clearly *okay constraints* (but what makes them okay?):
 - a. CLASH-ATR: Low vowels may not bear the ATR feature.
 - b. ONSET: Every syllable must start with a consonant.
- (4) Some questionable constraints, by the standards of derivational phonology:
 - a. FTBIN: Feet are binary (2 syllables or moras).
 - b. ALIGN-L(Foot, PrWd): The sum of all distances from left edges of feet to the left edge of the PrWd is minimized. (For consequences see (35).)
 - c. Half the constraints that first-year phonology students make up.

Reasons to try to formalize OT, rather than allowing *ad hoc* English constraints:

- (5)
 - a. Results in an explicit, falsifiable theory of UG
 - b. Constrains linguistic description
 - c. Enables computational work
(tools for linguists; algorithms for generation (Eisner, in preparation), parsing, acquisition; theorems on expressive power)
 - d. Exposes formal similarities among constraints
(e.g., locality properties; “*x* projects *y*” = “*y* needed to license *x*” \approx “do not link *x* to $-y$ segments”; “*[voiced, gl]” = “no implosives”)

- e. Clarifies predictions made by descriptive work
(many constraints given informally in the literature, including GA, do not specify how to count violations in all circumstances)
- f. Aids descriptive work by providing well-motivated and well-formalized constraints and representations

The formalization sketched in this talk is called **OTP**—OT with primitive constraints.

2. The search for core mechanisms

Ask: What formal devices are regularly used by constraints in the literature?

- (6) a. NASVOI (Itô, Mester, & Padgett 1996)
“Every nasal segment must be linked to some voicing feature.”
- b. $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{ONSET} \\ \text{ALIGN}(\sigma, L, C, L) \end{array} \right\}$ (equivalent) (Prince & Smolensky 1993)
(McCarthy & Prince 1993)
“Every syllable must begin with (be left-aligned with) some consonant.”
- c. *Common thread*: “Every . . . some.”
 $\forall \alpha, \exists \beta$ such that α and β stand in such-and-such local relationship.

If we allow α and β to be edges (as one option), we only need one kind of local relationship—*temporal cooccurrence*:

- (7) The primitive **implication** family.
 $\boxed{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}$ means: $\forall \alpha, \exists \beta$ such that α and β coincide temporally.
- (8) Rewrite (6):
 - a. $\text{nas} \rightarrow \text{voi}$: $\forall \text{nas}, \exists \text{voi}$ such that nas and voi coincide temporally.
 - b. $\sigma[\rightarrow c[$: $\forall \sigma[, \exists c[$ such that $\sigma[$ and $c[$ coincide temporally.

Note that $\text{ONSET: } \sigma[\rightarrow c[$, $\text{NOONSET: } \sigma[\rightarrow v[$, $\text{CODA: }]_\sigma \rightarrow]_C$, and $\text{NOCODA: }]_\sigma \rightarrow]_V$ are all equally easy to express using this family. So as in other theories, UG must still state that ONSET and NOCODA are strongly preferred by human grammars. (The dispreferred constraints may still be possible: e.g., Hammond 1995 proposes a NOONSET constraint for stressless syllables. See Green 1994 on metaconstraints.)

Thus we can regard alignment as “edge licensing.” (Or licensing is “feature alignment.”) We can also mix references to edges and interiors:

- (9) $F \rightarrow]_\mu$: Every foot must cross a mora boundary. (No degenerate feet.)
(= MIN-2m: Green & Kenstowicz 1995)

McCarthy & Prince (1993) have previously noted that alignment plays a unifying role, and have suggested that it’s *the* core mechanism for all of phonology:

- (10) a. “These examples only hint at the generality of the phenomenon to be explored here, which extends to include all the various ways that constituents may be

enjoined to share an edge in prosody and morphology. Data like these have been given widely disparate treatments in the literature ...” (p. 1)

- b. “Taken together with \bar{X} -like restrictions on immediate domination and interpreted within the appropriate theory of constraint satisfaction, *GA provides a mechanism for completely specifying a class of formal languages that, when substantive parameters are set, ought to be all-but-coextensive with possible human languages.*” (p. 2)

A second constraint family:

Above, we unified feature licensing and alignment.

The opposite of feature licensing is feature clash.

The opposite of alignment is disalignment, i.e., edge clash.

- (11) a. *[low, ATR] (Cole & Kisseberth 1994)
 “Low features are incompatible with ATR features.”
 b. NONFINALITY = *ALIGN(*PrWd*, R, F, R) (e.g., Buckley 1995)
 “Prosodic words may not be right-aligned with feet.”

(12) The primitive **clash** family.

$\alpha \perp \beta$ means: $\forall \alpha, \exists \beta$ such that α and β coincide temporally. [cf. (7)]

Equivalently: $\forall \alpha \forall \beta$, α and β are temporally disjoint.

(13) Rewrite (11):

- a. *low* \perp ATR: All *low* and ATR features are temporally disjoint.
 b. $]_{PrWd} \perp]_F$: Each $]_{PrWd}$ does not coincide with (fall on) any $]_F$.

Again, this formulation suggests we can mix edges and interiors, and we can:

- (14) $F \perp_M$: A foot may not cross a morpheme boundary.
 (= TAUTO-F, Crowhurst 1994)

(In fact, (14) is more plausible than Crowhurst’s formulation, $*_F[\sigma _M[\sigma]_F$.

It would be surprising to find a language that crucially blocked $_M$ [only where Crowhurst states, while still allowing it to interrupt a syllable or a ternary foot.)

Null hypothesis: These two families of local primitive constraints—implication and clash—are the *only* ones needed.

$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ says that α ’s attract β ’s.
 $\alpha \perp \beta$ says that α ’s repel β ’s.

3. What representations are being constrained?

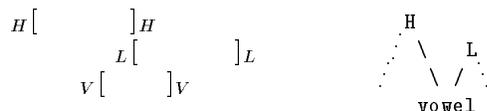
The primitive constraints are easiest to interpret if we assume that ηk is represented as in (15b), not (15a). This representation is inspired by Optimal Domains Theory (Cole & Kisseberth 1994) and Correspondence Theory (McCarthy & Prince 1995).

For computational purposes, regard each candidate timeline as a total ordering over a set of edge brackets.

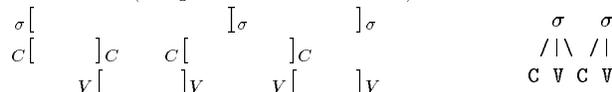
The lexicon provides an **underspecified timeline**—an ordering over a set of *input* edge brackets. In general this is only a partial ordering, so input constituents may be floating with respect to each other (e.g., floating tones, templatic morphemes). The candidate set consists of all possible fully specified versions of this underspecified timeline.

- (18) Because the timeline is continuous rather than divided into segments, brackets can fall in mid-segment:

- a. Contour tones:



- b. Geminates (long vowels are similar):



4. Formal definition of the constraints

- (19) Formal statement of the primitive constraint families:

- a. $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$: Each α temporally overlaps some β .
Scoring: Each α without a β incurs one violation mark.
- b. $\alpha \perp \beta$: Each α temporally overlaps no β .
Scoring: Each overlap incurs one violation mark.

- (20) What can α and β be?

- a. *Edges* such as $low[$ or $]low$.
- b. *Interiors* such as low .

Denote only the interior of a constituent, *without its edges*.

Thus, low and ATR do not overlap here:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & ATR[&]ATR \\
 low[& &]low
 \end{array}$$

I.e., the above candidate satisfies $low \perp ATR$ but violates $low \rightarrow ATR$.

- c. *Conjunctions* and *disjunctions* as in (21).

(Dispreferred in analyses, on grounds of their greater complexity—they refer to more features.)

- (21) Occasionally, must allow the following generalized forms of (19). I propose to limit conjunction/disjunction to these configurations only.

- a. $(\alpha_1 \text{ and } \alpha_2 \text{ and } \dots) \rightarrow (\beta_1 \text{ or } \beta_2 \text{ or } \dots)$

Scoring: Violated once by each set of objects $\{A_1, A_2, \dots\}$ of types $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots$ respectively that all overlap on the timeline and whose intersection does not overlap any object of type β_1, β_2, \dots

- b. $(\alpha_1 \text{ and } \alpha_2 \text{ and } \dots) \perp (\beta_1 \text{ and } \beta_2 \text{ and } \dots)$

Scoring: Violated once by each set of objects $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, B_1, B_2, \dots\}$ of types $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots$ respectively that all overlap on the timeline.

(Could also be notated: $\alpha_1 \perp \alpha_2 \perp \dots \perp \beta_1 \perp \beta_2 \perp \dots$.)

Each violation mark is still triggered individually by a bad *local* condition in the candidate, e.g., a moment on the timeline when certain edges are present and others are not.

Note that some constraints require crisp alignment of edges ($x[\rightarrow y[$), while others are weaker and require only overlap ($x \rightarrow y$), allowing spreading. (Cf. the violable CRISPEDGE constraint of Itô & Mester (1994).)

5. Some further example constraints from the literature

This section illustrates how all the types of primitive constraints are ubiquitous across different areas of phonology.

My apologies in advance for any errors or mischaracterizations in these lists. Some of these translations to OTP are not exact, but appear to act correctly on the data in the papers cited. Also, note that sometimes there is more than one way to paraphrase a constraint.

(“ROA” citations point to the Rutgers Optimality Archive at <http://rucss.rutgers.edu/roa.html>; they are not further listed in the bibliography of this handout.)

Key to unfamiliar notation:

<i>feat</i>	version of feature on output tier
<u><i>feat</i></u>	version of feature on input tier (underline denotes “underlyin’ ” material)
μ_s	strong mora, containing onset and nucleus (Zec 1988).
μ_w	weak mora, containing coda if any (Zec 1988). (One could also use explicit constituents Ons, Nuc, Coda.)
x	a 2ndary stress mark over a stress-bearing unit (first layer of the grid)
X	a word-primary stress mark (second layer of the grid)
<i>Seg</i>	segmental root node (alternatively, C or V), as distinguished from morphological root <u><i>Root</i></u>

Some implication constraints from the literature.

(22) “Same edge” implication:

a. **Features**

1. $]_{raised} \rightarrow]_{upper}$ ALIGN[R][U]. Bradshaw ROA-93j.

b. **Prosody**

1. $]_{PrWd} \rightarrow]_{\sigma}$ ALIGN: Wd] = σ . Myers, ROA-6.
2. $]_F \rightarrow]_{\mu_w}$ IAMBIC QUANTITY: In a rhythmic unit (W S), S is heavy. Hung, ROA-24.
3. $]_{PrWd} \rightarrow]_{\mu_w}$ ALIGN-H: Align(*PrWd*, R, heavy syllable, R). Kager, ROA-70.

4. $\mathbf{x}[\rightarrow F[$ FOOT-FORM (trochaic): If there is a head, it is on the L. Hung, ROA-9. TROCHAIC: $\text{Align}(\acute{\sigma}, L, \text{Foot}, L)$. Kager, ROA-35.
5. $F[\rightarrow \mathbf{x}[$ ALIGN(Ft, L; Head(Ft), L). Bermudez-Otero, ROA-136.
6. $]_{PrWd} \rightarrow]_{\mathbf{x}}$ FINAL-STR: $\text{Align}(\text{domain}, R, \acute{\sigma}, R)$. Kager, ROA-35.
7. $]_F \rightarrow]_{\sigma}$ FILL: Respect the usual prosodic hierarchy, without catalexis. Inkelas, ROA-39. (Take catalexis to be $F[\sigma[\dots]_{\sigma} \dots]_F$, and assume another constraint $]_F \perp \sigma$.)

c. **Feature-prosody interaction**

1. $F[\rightarrow C[$ ALIGN(Ft, L, Onset): The left edge of a foot must always be aligned to the onset of the first syllable in the foot. Goedemans, ROA-26. (Assume we also have $F[\rightarrow \sigma[\cdot]$)
2. $\mathbf{x}[\rightarrow V[$ NOONSET: Stressless syllables do not have onsets. Hammond, ROA-58.
3. $H[\rightarrow PrWd[$ ALIGN(H tone, L, PWd, L). Myers, ROA-6.
4. $]_{\mu_s} \rightarrow]_{son}$, et al. HNUC: A higher sonority nucleus is more harmonic than one of lower sonority. Féry, ROA-34, following P&S 1993.
5. $]_{\mu_s} \rightarrow]_V$ PROJECT(\bar{N} , V): Nucleus must be a vowel. Oostendorp, ROA-84.
6. $\sigma[\rightarrow A_0[$ STRONG ONSET: Syllables begin with a closure A_0 . Bakovic, ROA-96.
7. $(]_{\sigma} \text{ and }]_{hi}) \rightarrow]_{back}$ $*\dots i]_{\sigma}$. Kenstowicz, ROA-103.
8. $(]_{low} \text{ and }]_{\sigma}) \rightarrow]_{\mathbf{x}}$ No [a]: [a] is not allowed in unstressed open syllables. Kager, ROA-93a.
9. $(]_{hi} \text{ and }]_{\sigma}) \rightarrow (]_{\mathbf{x}} \text{ or }]_{back})$ No [i]: [i] is not allowed in unstressed open syllables. Kager, ROA-93a.

d. **I-O relationships**

1. $H[\rightarrow \underline{H}[$ LEFT-HD: The leftmost tone bearer of a tone span must be a head. Myers, ROA-6.
2. $]_{\underline{ATR}} \rightarrow]_{ATRdom}$ BA-rt: $\text{Align}(\text{Anchor-s}, R; [\text{ATR}]\text{-domain}, R)$. Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-22.

e. **Morphophonology**

1. $]_{Plural} \rightarrow]_{son}$ SON]PL: Plurals end in a sonorant. Golston & Wiese, ROA-100.
2. $\underline{M}[\rightarrow F[$ MORPHEME-FOOT-LEFT: $\text{Align}(\text{Morpheme}, L, \text{Foot}, L)$, where “a *single* violation is assessed for every morpheme which does not meet this requirement.” Crowhurst, ROA-19. See also Kager, ROA-35; Bermudez-Otero, ROA-136.

3. $\underline{Root}[\rightarrow PrWd]$ ALIGN-WD: Align(root, Left; PrWd, Left). Cohn & McCarthy, ROA-25.
4. $\underline{Root}[\rightarrow \sigma]$, etc. ALIGN(Root, σ ; L,R): “Align root morpheme boundaries with syllable boundaries at both edges.” Yip, ROA-14.
5. $Red[\rightarrow F]$
 $,]Red \rightarrow]_F$ Red = Foot. ROA-16. Carleton & Myers, ROA-16. (Also need $Red \perp F[\cdot]$)
- (23) **“Opposite edge” implication:**
- a. **Features**
1. $]_{lax} \rightarrow \mu_w$ PROJECT(lax, \bar{N}): Lax vowels are followed by additional weight (coda consonant or 2nd half of a diphthong). Oostendorp, ROA-84.
2. $\mu_w[\rightarrow]_{lax}$ PROJECT(\bar{N} , lax): Only lax vowels are followed by additional weight (as if tense vowels bore their own). Oostendorp, ROA-84.
3. $(]_{vel}$ and $C[\rightarrow (]_{cont}$ or $]_{voi}$) No kC. Bradshaw, ROA-93j.
- b. **Prosody**
1. $]_{\mathbf{x}} \rightarrow \mu$ RHYTHM: A stressed element must be followed by an unstressed element. Hung, ROA-9. (Also need $]\mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{x}[\cdot]$)
2. $(]_{\sigma}$ and $\sigma[\rightarrow (]_{\mathbf{x}}$ or $\mathbf{x}[\rightarrow (]_{\sigma}$ and $\sigma[\rightarrow (]_{\mathbf{x}}$ or $\mathbf{x}[\rightarrow]_F$ or $F[\cdot]$) separated by a foot boundary. Green, ROA-45.
3. LAPSE: Adjacent unstressed syllables are separated by a foot boundary. Green, ROA-45.
- c. **I-O relationships**
1. $H[\rightarrow]_{\underline{H}}$ LOCAL: An output TBU bearing tone t must be adjacent to [input] TBU b, where b [also] bears t. Bickmore (credited to Myers), ROA-161. (Only right spreading actually appears. Note the variation $H[\rightarrow (]_{\underline{H}}$ or $]_{\underline{H}}$.)
- d. **Morphophonology**
1. $Affix[\rightarrow]_{PrWd}$ ALIGN-SFX: Align(Affix, L, PrWd, R). McCarthy & Prince, ROA-7.
- (24) **“Interior” implication:**
- a. **Features**
1. $rd \rightarrow back$ Round \rightarrow Back. Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-98.
2. $nas \rightarrow voi$ NASVOI. Itô, Mester, & Padgett, ROA-38; Yip, ROA-81.

3. $V \rightarrow ATRdom$ WSA-lf: Align([ATR]-dom, L; Word, L). Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-22. (This gets the correct, gradient effect of spreading as far as possible.)
4. $nas \rightarrow Seg$, etc. Features like *nas* surface only if linked to a (faithful or epenthetic) segmental root. Zoll, ROA-143.
5. $ATR \rightarrow ATRdom$ Not explicitly mentioned in Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-22, but clearly needed there.
6. $\sigma \rightarrow (H \text{ or } L)$ MAX-ET: Every TBU must have a correspondent tone. McCarthy & Prince (1995). SPEC(Tone): Every TBU has a tone. Zoll, ROA-143, after Prince & Smolensky (1993).
7. $V \rightarrow (front \text{ or } round \text{ or } low)$ COLOR: A vowel is [front] or [round] if it is [-low]. Kirchner, ROA-4.
8. $C \rightarrow (cor \text{ or } lab \text{ or } dors)$ $C \rightarrow FC$: A [+cons] root dominates a consonantal place feature. Oostendorp, ROA-84.
9. $(ATRdom \text{ and } V) \rightarrow ATR$ EXPRESS: Express[ATR]. Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-22.

b. Prosody

1. $\mu \rightarrow \sigma$ Parse μ : Every mora must be parsed into a syllable. Myers, ROA-6.
2. $\mu_w \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ WEIGHT-TO-STRESS: Heavy syllables are stressed. Hung, ROA-9 (following Prince 1990).
3. $Seg \rightarrow \sigma$ PARSE(ROOT): Every root node must be associated with a syllable or mora.

c. Feature-prosody interaction

1. $\sigma \rightarrow H$ FILL(σ): A syllable must be associated with a [high tone. Myers, ROA-6.
2. $V \rightarrow Nuc$ $V \rightarrow \sigma$: A vowel must be a syllable head. Green, ROA-8.
3. $Nuc \rightarrow son$ $\sigma \rightarrow R$: A syllable head must be at least a resonant. Green, ROA-8.
4. $round \rightarrow (back \text{ or } stress)$ MAV(PRO) (Marked Vowel (Prominent)): Umlauted vowels fall in prominent syllables. Féry, ROA-34.
5. $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow (lo \text{ or } hi \text{ or } front \text{ or } back)$ NON-HEAD(\emptyset): Stressed schwa is prohibited. Cohn & McCarthy, ROA-25.

d. I-O relationships

1. $\underline{H} \rightarrow H$, etc. PARSE(T): A tone must be parsed. Myers, ROA-6.

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|-----|---|--|
| 2. | <u>lab</u> → <i>lab</i> , etc. | MAXPL: Parse underlying place features. Lombardi, ROA-105. MAX, McCarthy & Prince 1995. |
| 3. | <i>lab</i> → <u>lab</u> , etc. | *INS(F): Do not insert features. Kirchner, ROA-4. DEP, McCarthy & Prince 1995. |
| 4. | <u>μ</u> → μ | WEIGHTIDENT: If an input vowel is bimoraic, then so is the correspondent output vowel. Pater, ROA-107. See also WEIGHTIDENT, Alderete, ROA-131. |
| 5. | <u>x</u> → x | STRESSIDENT: Parse lexical stress. Pater, ROA-107. HEAD-MAX: Alderete, ROA-131 (from McCarthy 1995). |
| 6. | (<u>x</u> and <i>Affix</i>) → x | HEAD-MAX _{Affix} : Specializes HEAD-MAX to affixes. Alderete, ROA-131. |
| 7. | (<i>Seg</i> and x) → <u>Seg</u> | HEAD-DEP: Every segment contained in a prosodic head in S ₂ [output] has a correspondent in S ₁ [input]. Roberts-Kohno, ROA-93k. |
| 8. | (<u>nas</u> and x) → <i>nas</i> , etc. | HEADSYLL-MAX(F): No features are deleted from (parsed?) segments in the head syllable. Yip, ROA-159. |
| 9. | (<u>μ</u> and x) → μ, etc. | HEAD-WT-IDENT: No lengthening or shortening of stressed syllables. Alderete, ROA-131. |
| 10. | <i>H</i> → (<u>H</u> or <u>L</u>) | TPFAITH: Preserve tonal prominence profile. Tranel, ROA-72; Zoll, ROA-143. |

e. **Morphophonology**

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|
| 1. | <u>MWd</u> → x | HEADPROJ: $MWd[\dots \text{Head}(PWd) \dots]_{MWd}$. A lexical head must project a prosodic head: every MWd constituent must include a stressed vowel. (A strengthened replacement for LX≈PR.) Kennedy, ROA-139. |
| 2. | <u>M</u> → <i>PrWd</i> | MORPA: At least one element of a morpheme is incorporated into a prosodic word. Oostendorp, ROA-84. |
| 3. | <u>Root</u> → <i>F</i> | FT-ROOT: The root must overlap with a foot. Buckley, ROA-93c. |

(25) **“Mixed” implication:**

a. **Features**

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | <i>upper</i> → μ[| Minimal Tone Association (MTA): [+upper] must be linked to more than one TBU. Bradshaw, ROA-93j. |
| 2. | (] _{A₀} and A _f [) → <i>pal</i> | NOAFF: Disallows non-palatal affricates. Bakovic, ROA-96. |
| 3. | (] _C and C[) → (<i>cor</i> or <i>dors</i> ...) | CONTACT: Coda should share place with the following Onset [if any]. Kenstowicz, ROA-30. |
| 4. | (] _{nas} and C[) → <i>voi</i> | *NC̥: No nasal – voiceless obstruent sequences. Pater, ROA-160. |

5. (*voi* and $C[] \rightarrow]_{nas}$ \gg ... \gg No-NC-LINK, Itô, Mester, & Padgett, ROA-38.

b. Prosody

1. $F \rightarrow \mu[$ MIN-2m: A metrical foot contains at least two moras. Green & Kenstowicz, ROA-101.
2. $PrWd \rightarrow seg[$ DISYLL: The left and right edges of the PrWd, must coincide, respectively, with the left and right edges of *different* syllables. Kager, ROA-70. (Also need $PrWd[\rightarrow seg[$, $]PrWd \rightarrow]seg$.)
3. ($]_{\sigma}$ and $\sigma[$) $\rightarrow (]_F$ or $F[$ or $F)$ PARSE-2: One of two adjacent stress units should be parsed by a foot. Kager, ROA-35. PARSE-ADJ-SYLL. Alderete, ROA-94.

c. Feature-prosody interaction

1. ($F[$ and Root) $\rightarrow C[$ FTONSET^{rt}: Align(Ft that is in root, L, C or Root, L). Buckley, ROA-56.
2. (V and $\mu_w[$) $\rightarrow low$ LOWER: Long vowels are low. $V_{\mu\mu} \rightarrow [Low]$. Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-98.

d. I-O relationship

1. (H and $\sigma[$) $\rightarrow]_H$ T-BIN: A tone span can have at most one non-head (in a domain); limits spread to one syllable from underlying tone. Myers, ROA-6.

Some clash constraints from the literature.

(26) “Same edge” clash:

a. Prosody

1. $]x \perp]PrWd$ *FINAL STRESS. Anttila, ROA-63. NON-FIN(σ). Cohn & McCarthy, ROA-25. Cf. RHYTHM, Hung, ROA-9.
2. $]F \perp]PrWd$. NONFINALITY: Feet should not be word-final. Ní Chiosáin, ROA-89 (credited to Spaelti as WEAKEDGE(P-Cat)), et al.

b. Feature-prosody interaction

1. $\sigma[\perp]_{nas}[$ *ONS/N. Smolensky, ROA-86 (following Prince & Smolensky 1993).
2. $]_{lax} \perp]_{\sigma}$ PROJECT(lax, \bar{N}): Lax vowels are followed by additional weight (coda consonant or 2nd half of a diphthong). Oostendorp, ROA-84.
3. $]_{obs} \perp]_{\mu_w}$ *OBSNUC. Pater, ROA-107.
4. ($]_C$ and $]_{\sigma}$) $\perp]_{lab}$ CODACOND: Syllable-final consonant may not have place features. Lombardi, ROA-105.

c. **I-O relations**

1. $H[\perp \underline{H}[$ *ALIGN(H,L)-I/O: High tone in output must not left-align with its position in input. Bickmore, ROA-161.
2. $(]_{PrWd} \text{ and }]_{\mu_w}) \perp]_V$ FREE-V: *PrWd*-final vowels must not be parsed. So final heavy syllables are CVC, not CVV. Kager, ROA-70.

d. **Morphophonology**

1. $]\underline{M} \perp]_{low}$ *a]: No low vowel in a morpheme-final open syllable. Kager, ROA-93c.
2. $H[\perp \underline{M}[$ *ALIGN(H, L, Source Morpheme, L) with no violation by distance. Bickmore, ROA-161.

(27) **“Opposite edge” clash:**

a. **Features**

1. $]\underline{H} \perp H[$ OCP: *FF, where F is a parsed [output] feature specification. “Furthermore, we will consider two tones to be adjacent if they are associated by parsed associations with adjacent tone bearers” (so domains are unnecessary). Myers, ROA-6.
2. $]\underline{son} \perp \underline{voi}[$ *rg: No sonorant-voiced clusters. Ní Chiosáin, ROA-89.
3. $(]_{nas} \text{ and } C[) \perp]_{voi}$ *NĊ: No nasal – voiceless obstruent sequences. Pater, ROA-160.
4. $(]_{vel} \text{ and }]_{cont}) \perp \underline{lab}[$ NO VELCONT LAB: No sequence of a velar continuant before a labial. Bradshaw, ROA-93j.
5. $(]_{nas} \text{ and } C[) \perp \underline{voi}$ No-NC-LINK. Itô, Mester, & Padgett, ROA-38.

b. **Prosody**

1. $]\underline{x} \perp \underline{x}[$ *CLASH: No adjacent strong beats on the grid. Kager, ROA-35. NoCLASH. Anttila, ROA-63. Cf. RHYTHM, Hung, ROA-9.
2. $]\underline{F} \perp \underline{F}[$ *FTFT: Feet must not be adjacent. Kager, ROA-35.

(28) **“Interior” clash:**

a. **Features**

1. $\underline{voi} \perp \underline{gl}$ *[voiced, gl]: No implosives. Buckley, ROA-57.
2. $\underline{tense} \perp \underline{low}$ *TENSE-low: No tense low vowels. Benua, ROA-74.
3. $\underline{phar} \perp \underline{dor}$ *MID (no mid vowels): *[Phar, Dor]. Alderete, ROA-94.
4. $\underline{hi} \perp \underline{low}$ Non-occurrence of +hi and +low. Kirchner, ROA-4.
5. $\underline{Seg} \perp \underline{Word}$ *STRUCTURE(Root). Myers, ROA-6.
6. $\underline{H} \perp \underline{Word}$ *Struct(A): There must be no association. Myers, ROA-6.

7. $low \perp Word$ *[low]. Oostendorp, ROA-84 (following Prince & Smolensky 1993).
- b. **Prosody**
1. $\sigma \perp PrWd$ MONOSYLLABICITY: The fewer syllables, the better. Noske, ROA-109. *STRUC(σ): No syllables. Zoll, ROA-143.
- c. **Feature-prosody interaction**
1. $\mu_w \perp (gl \text{ and } \dots)$ CODA-h: A /h/ may only occur in an onset. Oostendorp, ROA-84.
- (29) **“Mixed” clash:**
- a. **Features**
1. $hi \perp seg[, lo \perp seg[$ *MULT-HEIGHT: No multiply linked height features. Kirchner, ROA-4.
 2. $front \perp \underline{front}[$, etc. *SPREAD: Do not insert association lines.
 3. $RdDom \perp HiDom[$, etc. UNIFORMITY: The (round-)harmony domain must be monotonic: high or low. Cole & Kisseberth, ROA-98. (Cf. parasitic harmony.)
 4. $(]_v \text{ and } v[) \perp hi$, etc. NO LONG VOWEL: Two adjacent vocalic roots may not be linked to the same material (but diphthongs are allowed). Oostendorp, ROA-84.
- b. **Prosody**
1. $F \perp M[$ TAUTOMORPHEMIC-FOOT: $*_F[\sigma_M[\sigma]_F]$. Crowhurst, ROA-19.
 2. $\mu_s \perp seg[$ *BRANCH(S) μ . Walker, ROA-142.
 3. $F \perp \sigma[$, etc. UNARITY: A prosodic category p contains no more than one of the next lower prosodic category $p-1$. A. Green, ROA-115.
 4. $F[\perp \sigma$ SYLLINT: Syllable integrity (violable). Everett, ROA-163.
 5. $\sigma \perp (]_C \text{ and } C[)$ *COMPLEX: Only one element can be in onset or coda position.
- c. **Feature-prosody interaction**
1. $C \perp]_\sigma$ GEMINATE: No geminate consonants. Oostendorp, ROA-84.
 2. $\sigma \perp H[$, etc. *COMPLEX(T): A tone-bearer must not be associated with more than one tone. Myers, ROA-6.
 3. $\sigma \perp C[$ NO COMPLEX ONSET OR RHYME. Noske, ROA-109.
 4. $\mu \perp C[$ *COMPLEX: No complex onset or coda. Kenstowicz, ROA-103.
 5. $rime \perp \underline{nas}[$, etc. RHYME HARMONY: All segments in the rhyme must share any nasal specification. Yip, ROA-81, ROA-135.
- d. **Morphophonology**
1. $Red \perp F[$, RED = Foot. Carleton & Myers, ROA-16. (Also need $Red[\rightarrow F[$, $]Red \rightarrow]F$.)

2. $lab \perp_M [$ MONOLOG: The edges of a morphological domain should be crisp; no feature should be linked both to an edge segment of that domain and to an element outside of the domain. Oosetndorp, ROA-84. (Also need $lab \perp]_M$.)
3. $(x[\text{ and } v[) \perp \underline{Root}$ FTONSET^{rt}: Align(Ft that is in root, L, C or Root, L). Buckley, ROA-56.

I-O Correspondence (between input and output features): Signaled by alignment between input and output tiers.

Note that when Gen constructs a candidate, it is constrained to place specified lexical material on the input tier, although the position of floating lexical material may be freely chosen.

Correspondence relations with and without spreading:

- (30) a. $\begin{array}{l} voi[\quad]voi \\ \underline{voi}[\quad]\underline{voi} \end{array}$ Perfect faithfulness
- b. $\begin{array}{l} \quad \quad \quad \\ \underline{voi}[\quad]\underline{voi} \end{array}$ Violates MAX-IO (PARSE): $\underline{voi} \rightarrow voi$
- c. $\begin{array}{l} voi[\quad]voi \\ \quad \quad \quad \end{array}$ Violates DEP-IO (FILL): $voi \rightarrow \underline{voi}$
- d. $\begin{array}{l} voi[\quad \quad \quad]voi \\ \underline{voi}[\quad]\underline{voi} \end{array}$ Like (a), this spread version satisfies PARSE & FILL, which only require overlap. Spreading may be required to satisfy some other constraint. On the other hand, various constraints can be invoked against spreading: either $voi \perp]\underline{voi}$ or $]voi \rightarrow]\underline{voi}$ or $\underline{voi} \rightarrow]voi$ could be used to block (d). (Cf. Yip, 1994:21, fn. 11, on MSEG vs. *Insert Structure)

Thus, the timeline mechanism unifies Correspondence relations with autosegmental associations. Both are encoded by overlap on the constituent timeline. This fleshes out a proposal of McCarthy & Prince (1995):

- (31) “The re-casting of autosegmental association in terms of correspondence relations may be expected to have consequences for the analysis of tonal, harmonic, and related phenomena. We do not explore these ideas here, though they are clearly worth developing.” (p. 22)

Epenthesis and syncope rely on the fact that the input specifies only a weak partial order of edge brackets—input brackets are ordered with \leq at best. This makes (32) and (33) possible.

- (32) Epenthesis ($\underline{CC} \Rightarrow CVC$): the \underline{C} 's are pushed apart.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & v[&]v \\ c[&]c & c[&]c \\ \underline{c}[&]\underline{c} & \underline{c}[&]\underline{c} \end{array}$$

(33) Syncope ($CVC \Rightarrow CC$): the V is crushed to zero width so the C 's can be adjacent (as encouraged by $]_{\text{segment}} \rightarrow \text{segment}[$ and expected by assimilation constraints).

(Only on the input tier may constituents have zero width.)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} c[&]c &]c \\ \underline{c}[&]\underline{c} &]\underline{c} \\ & v[&]v \end{array}$$

6. How about measuring distance?

Two important differences between $_F[\rightarrow PrWd[$ and $\text{ALIGN}(F, L, PrWd, L)$:

- The \rightarrow family *doesn't measure distance*.
E.g., $(\acute{\sigma}\sigma)(\acute{\sigma}\sigma)(\acute{\sigma}\sigma)\sigma$ violates $_F[\rightarrow PrWd[$ twice, once for each non-initial foot.
- The \rightarrow family *isn't only used for edges*.

Interestingly, Zoll (1996:137–38) has independently argued that licensing has just those properties (leading to her constraint $\text{COINCIDE}(X, Y)$):

“There are two properties of licensing which distinguish it from the cases of affixation discussed [in M&P (1993)].

“First, licensing of marked structure never involves an injunction to be as close to a strong position as possible. Rather, licensing *always* constitutes an all-or-nothing proposition whereby marked structures are licit in licensed positions but ill-formed everywhere else.”

“The second important difference is that licensing does not strictly involve coincidence of edges or distance from an edge, but is concerned rather with membership in a constituent which may be peripheral ... [e.g.] heavy syllables belong to the first foot.”

Q: Is this local version of alignment powerful enough?

A: Perhaps so. For cases where it's really necessary to measure distance, for example to control the width of a feature domain:

- (34) a. $\sigma \rightarrow XDom$: X-domain should be as wide as possible (contain many σ 's).
b. $\sigma \perp XDom$: X-domain should be as narrow as possible (contain few σ 's).

Note that this trick, unlike GA, automatically specifies the units of measurement.

Q: Is Generalized Alignment too powerful?

A: Probably. It's a family of non-local constraints that do addition. That lets us express very non-local, unattested phenomena.

Example of unwarranted power: The GA constraint in (35) wants the floating tone to anchor as close to the center of the word as possible (subject to higher-ranked constraints).

(35) Notes:

1. ´ denotes tone, not stress.
2. The n^{th} column records the degree of misalignment of the n^{th} syllable, at least if GA measures this in syllables rather than segments (or moras: see Mester & Padgett (1993)).
3. Assume that high-ranked faithfulness constraints rule out other candidates. For example, as there is only one floating tone underlyingly, $\acute{\sigma}\acute{\sigma}\acute{\sigma}\acute{\sigma}\acute{\sigma}\acute{\sigma}$ is ruled out by $\text{DEP}(H)$.

$\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma + [H]$	ALIGN(σ, R, H, R): each syll must align with the floating tone							
a. $\acute{\sigma}\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma$	0	*	**	***	****	*****	*****	= 21
b. $\sigma\acute{\sigma}\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma$	*	0	*	**	***	****	*****	= 16
c. $\sigma\sigma\acute{\sigma}\sigma\sigma\sigma$	**	*	0	*	**	***	****	= 13
♡ d. $\sigma\sigma\sigma\acute{\sigma}\sigma\sigma$	***	**	*	0	*	**	***	= 12
e. $\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\acute{\sigma}\sigma$	****	***	**	*	0	*	**	= 13
f. $\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\acute{\sigma}$	*****	****	***	**	*	0	*	= 16
g. $\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma\acute{\sigma}$	*****	*****	****	***	**	*	0	= 22

↑
candidate's total
violations

↑
violations contributed by 2nd syllable's misalignment

If there were *two* floating tones, they'd want to anchor at 1/4 and 3/4 of the way through the word.

This kind of non-local behavior via GA is unattested to my knowledge. It is also beyond the power of known computational OT methods, in particular the finite-state method of Ellison (1995) and the context-free method of Tesar (1996). The primitive constraints are provably incapable of producing such behavior.

7. How to handle non-local phenomena?

Since OTP uses only the primitive constraints of §4, it claims that *all phonology is local*.

Some apparently non-local phenomena can be reanalyzed:

- *Metrical stress*. Most non-local constraints in the literature concern metrical stress, which has received both local and non-local analyses in the past.
 - *Local*: Non-OT, iterative accounts (e.g., Prince 1983, Halle & Vergnaud 1987, Kager 1993, Hayes 1985, 1995).
 - *Non-local*: McCarthy & Prince (1993) propose using Generalized Alignment constraints to measure the distance from each foot to the edge of the word.
 - *Non-local*: Less powerful alternatives to GA are possible. Could use directional “greedy” versions of primitive constraints like $\text{PARSE}(\sigma)$ or $\text{FILL}(\text{Root})$, in which early violations count as decisively worse than later ones. (Cf. Kager (1994), who argues for a greedy ALIGN evaluated “foot by foot.”)
 - *Local*: Eisner (in press) gives an OTP typology of metrical stress. This paper uses a small set of primitive constraints, which are freely reranked to get attested systems. This gives a unified fine-grained account of the following phenomena described by Hayes (1995).

1. asymmetric foot shape typology
2. iambic lengthening
3. unbounded stress
4. simple word-initial and word-final stress
5. LR and RL footing, but no clear cases of RL iambs
6. syllable and foot extrametricality
7. no cases of final-syllable extrametricality for LR trochees
8. strong and weak prohibitions on degenerate feet
9. word-level stress, including prominence-based systems

The asymmetries above are reduced to (i) the universal onset-coda asymmetry and (ii) the universal tendency of extrametricality to be final.

- *Intervocalic phenomena* (e.g., lenition). A constraint like *VsV (Green & Kenstowicz 1995) appears non-local, since [s] must look to *both* sides to decide whether it can surface as s or must become z. However, a local reanalysis is possible.

Sample reanalysis: For *VsV, say that /s/ *always* wants to surface as [z], but only succeeds in the VsV context. For instance: (*cor* and *cont*) → *voi* rules out [s] in favor of [z]. It is outranked by]_z → (]_{v oi} or v[), which says that any surface [z] not underlyingly voiced is followed by a vowel, and also by the mirror image of this, so that such a [z] must also be preceded by a vowel. Here]_z abbreviates (]_{cor} and]_{cont} and]_{v oi}).

However, *reduplication* occupies a special role in phonology, in that it is inherently non-local; it cannot be reanalyzed as local.

Therefore, to handle reduplication in OTP we need a representational trick (similar to Clements 1985). Translate the Correspondence account of McCarthy & Prince (1995) into OTP as follows:

- a. As for all relations, OTP can enforce Correspondence only locally, so Correspondent elements must always overlap on the timeline,
- b. Thus, I-B faithfulness requires I and B to occupy the same portion of the timeline. (on separate input and output tiers)
- c. B-R faithfulness apparently requires R and B to occupy the same portion of the timeline. But this would rule out B-R juncture effects, which require B to precede R or vice-versa. (e.g., enforcement of *VhV in Javanese)
- d. So instead require R (on the output tier) and a copy of B (on its own special tier) to occupy the same portion of the timeline.
- e. Gen produces only candidates in which this copy of B is perfect. Thus, Gen must know how to do reduplication of morphemes, not just affixation.
- f. Now all the non-locality is handled within Gen; the violable constraints remain local.

- (36) Some candidates produced by Gen on RED(*bədah*)-e. In Javanese, first candidate wins.

a.	<u>bədah</u> -e	Input tier (used for I-B faithfulness)
	bəda bəda <u>-e</u>	Output tier: passed to phonetics (here violates MAX-IO)
	[Red] [Base] [Af]	Morphemic tier: mentioned by some constraints
	<u>bəda</u> ✓	Exact copy of base (used for B-R correspondence)

- b. bədah-e
 bəda**h**bəda**h**-e Satisfies MAX-IO, but violates surface constraint *VhV
 [Red][Base][Af]
bədah ✓ Exact copy of this candidate's base (enforced by Gen)
- c. bədah-e
 bəda**h**bəda -e Satisfies MAX-IO & *VhV, but not DEP-BR, i.e., $C \rightarrow \underline{C}$
 [Red][Base][Af]
bədah ✓ Exact copy of this candidate's base (enforced by Gen)
- d. bədah-e
 bəda bəda**h**-e Satisfies MAX-IO & *VhV, but not MAX-BR, i.e., $\underline{C} \rightarrow C$
 [Red][Base][Af]
bədah ✓ Exact copy of this candidate's base (enforced by Gen)

In a language also requiring I-R faithfulness (McCarthy & Prince's (1995) Full Model), Gen must put two copies on the input tier: bədah bədah-e.

Haplogy is a related example that may also be intrinsically non-local. (Yip 1995)

8. What role do the primitive constraints play in OT?

Three kinds of constraints:

- Primitive: the implication and clash families.
- Compound: Expressible as a monolithic block of primitive constraints in fixed order. (Kennedy (1996) uses blocks of Align constraints.)
- Complex: Any constraint not expressible in this restricted framework.

The balance among these remains to be seen. It is not yet clear what compound or complex constraints are actually needed (and which of the primitive constraints are *not* needed!).

We must also discover which of the formally possible primitive constraints are favored in real languages (on phonetic or other grounds), and what rankings are favored. OTP claims that languages use only local constraints; but it does not say *which* local constraints.

Meanwhile,

- Primitive constraints are “safe to use.” They're simple, radically local, and ubiquitous.
- The restricted version of OT allowing *only* primitive constraints—called OTP—is easy to reason within and is computationally tractable.
- OTP is the simplest explanation that stands a chance. Let's refine it against the data, adding new core constraints only as we're forced to.
- If OTP is close to correct, it may be fruitful to reanalyze languages and typologies within OTP. (For concreteness, see Eisner (in press) for a detailed reanalysis of stress typology that has some empirical benefits.)

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