Consonant Harmony (CH)

A process of assimilation of nonadjacent consonants, typically observed in children younger than 3.0. Can target place or manner features.

Table: Sample Tableaux: Harmony and Gliding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Manner</th>
<th>% Occurrence</th>
<th>ALIGNED</th>
<th>LICENSE</th>
<th>ALIGNMAX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[t]</td>
<td>voiceless fricatives</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[k]</td>
<td>voiceless stops</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[q]</td>
<td>voiceless nasals</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dinnsen & O’Connor (2001)

Observation: In a sample of over 200 children with phonological disorders, all subjects exhibiting manner harmony also showed gliding (w→w).

Hypothesis: There is a universal implicational relation such that manner harmony implies gliding.

Claim: This generalization can be captured through the mechanisms of Optimality Theory by positing a fixed constraint ranking, *R >> ALIGN.

References


Optimality Theory and Implicational Relations in Phonological Development

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