

## Accounting for optimizing and non-optimizing phonologically conditioned allomorphy

Cases of phonologically conditioned suppletive allomorphy (PCSA) can be divided into two kinds. The first kind is phonologically natural (*optimizing*), in that allomorph selection results in patterns that are also observed in the general phonologies of the world's languages. An example for this type is nominative case allomorphy in Korean, where the allomorph /-i/ appears after nominal stems that end in a consonant (*pap-i* 'rice-NOM') and the allomorph /-ka/ appears after vowel-final stems (*so-ka* 'cow-NOM'). This pattern follows the universal phonological trend to avoid codas and create onsets.

The second kind of PCSA selects allomorphs in a phonologically non-optimal way. An example of this type is the distribution of the definiteness marker's allomorphs in Haitian Creole (Hall 1953): The allomorph /-a/ appears after vowels (*che-a* 'dog-DEF') and the allomorph /-la/ appears after consonants (*pitit-la* 'child-DEF'), thus creating codas and not providing onsets.

My aim is to provide a unified analysis for both phonologically optimizing and non-optimizing cases of PCSA: Following a proposal by De Belder (2020), I assume that optimal cases are determined by general phonological constraints and that non-optimizing cases are determined by lexical subcategorization frames for allomorphs. The proposal furthermore aims to account for the empirical observations that have been made for PCSA.

### References

Hall, Robert A. 1953. *Haitian Creole: Grammar, Texts, Vocabulary. Memoirs of the American Anthropological Association* 74. Menasha, Wisconsin: American Anthropological Association.

De Belder, Marijke. 2020. A split approach to the selection of allomorphs: Vowel length alternating allomorphy in Dutch. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 5(1): 42. 1–40.