Contributions to the Strict CV phonology analysis of connected speech phenomena Katalin Balogné Bérces bbkati@yahoo.com

0 Overview

The fact that the left edge of (phonological) words is a strong position counts as a phonological commonplace. This basically means that the beginning of the word favours fortition processes and disfavours lenition both synchronically and diachronically. Theories have usually attempted to account for this with reference to the word boundary (#) or to foot-initial position. As an alternative, most practitioners of Strict CV Phonology (launched by Lowenstamm 1996), which, being a subbranch of Government Phonology, describes fortition and lenition phenomena as the result of the interaction of government and licensing relations (cf. Ségéral & Scheer 1999), assume that each word of a major category starts with a melodically empty CV unit on the skeletal tier, marking the word boundary (after Lowenstamm 1999). One of the functions of the boundary-marker in a cvCV... word (that is, a word starting with a single consonant followed by a vowel, where lower-case letters denote empty skeletal positions) is to absorb the (destructive) government emanating from the first vowel of the word, thus the word-initial consonant will not be negatively affected.

So far, the study of this boundary-marker has concentrated on the behaviour of consonant-initial words, therefore this paper has two main aims. On the one hand, it investigates whether or not vowel-initial words also possess a boundary-marker; on the other hand, it looks into what happens to the boundary-marker post-lexically, i.e., in connected speech. As the discussion unfolds, drawing on the insights of Prosodic Phonology (e.g., Nespor & Vogel 1986), it is suggested and exemplified that the boundary-marker serves as a general boundary marking the edges of (all) phonological domains: certain phonological rules will arbitrarily decide to ignore it and treat it as a kind of extraprosodic skeletal material. The boundary-markers not ignored by a given rule will delimit its domain by blocking its application. Also, a typology of the effects of the extraprosodic (i.e., ignored) boundary-marker is provided, which highlights the special status of the situation when a consonant-final word meets a vowel-initial one. Several examples are given, mostly from English, and further questions are asked.

0.1 Introduction

Strict CV Phonology or CVCV Phonology (henceforth CV Phonology) is a radical sub-branch of Government Phonology (GP – KLV 1985, KLV 1990, etc.). It accepts certain basic tenets of GP, including the essentially non-derivational nature of grammar, the theory of analytic vs. synthetic domains, and the claim that phonotactic and procedural facts are (largely) due to asymmetrical relationships like government and licensing contracted by phonological units. However, CV phonology (Lowenstamm 1996 and subsequent work) represents pioneering work representationwise; it hypothesises that prosodic structure is universally composed of strictly alternating CV units, and clusters of adjacent consonants or vowels arise when a language licenses domain-internal empty skeletal positions via (proper) government (familiar from GP). Domain-finally, the empty nucleus is parametrically licensed in languages which allow for consonant-final words.

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case v) of the boundary-marker of words starting with a single consonant (1a) or a cluster which forms a closed domain (cf. Scheer 1996) (1b), as opposed to words discussion, lower-case c's and v's symbolise empty positions while capital letters starting with such a cluster will surface in languages like French. (In the following consonants consumes the PG coming from the first pronounced V, and thus the starting with consonants unable to enter into this special relationship (dubbed indicate non-empty positions.) bogus clusters.) As a consequence, its v cannot remain empty, and therefore no word boundary-marker is left unlicensed. (Such consonant clusters are sometimes called Infrasegmental Government by Scheer) (1c), where the empty v straddled by the positions (indicated by capital Vs) licenses/silences the empty vocalic position (lowerbe used to explain certain phonotactic and lenition facts characteristic of the left edge. Ségéral and Scheer 1999 (in the theory of the Coda Mirror), this boundary-marker can traditional # (henceforth the boundary-marker). As argued in Lowenstamm 1999 and marking the beginning of the word and serving as the phonological embodiment of This is illustrated in (1): Proper Government (PG) emanating from non-empty the present paper is the empty CV unit posited to the left edge of each major category, A further innovation introduced by Lowenstamm (1999) and under close scrutiny in

3 a.French tapis [tapi] 'rug' b. French plateau [plato] 'tray

• c. #tka 0

lenition: the v position of the boundary-marker distracts this destructive force and the (1) also account for the fact that the beginning of the word systematically resists elaborated on in Dienes and Szigetvári 1999, Szigetvári 1999), the configurations in causing the lenition of consonants (as suggested in the Coda Mirror and further If government is generally considered as a destructive force silencing vowels and word-initial C escapes weakening.

We can call these languages 'strict' word-initially (#TR), as illustrated in (1), and no lenition is expected at that location French or English, however, display a strong preference for rising sonority clusters Such languages will henceforth be referred to as 'permissive'. Other languages like shown to allow for any combination of consonants as well as lenition word-initially predicted. On the one hand, Moroccan Arabic, Berber, Greek and others have been According to the workings of the boundary-marker, two basic language types are

represents the original stance claiming that the boundary-marker is always licensed (i.e. always requires PG) in 'strict' languages (that is why bogus clusters are the present paper. So far, two options have been provided. Lowenstamm (1999) The proper way to distinguish these two language types is one of the main concerns of

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absent, and thus it never needs PG. distinction lies in the presence vs. absence of the boundary-marker: in 'strict' (depending on the cluster in question). In contrast, according to Scheer (2001), the languages it is present and needs licensing while in 'permissive' languages it is prohibited word-initially) whereas it is not always licensed in 'permissive' languages

again; but first, let us examine some other aspects of cross-word phenomena, with examples from 'strict' languages. Later, the issue of the typology created by the boundary-marker will be taken up

sub-strings of the phonological utterance (including the utterance itself) called the phrases of a different type, cf. (2a) and (b). foot, the phonological word, the phonological phrase, the intonational phrase and the what these constituents are, the common core of all models includes the syllable, the exists a hierarchy of prosodic constituents which serves as the inventory from which domain of the rule. As the theory of domains, Prosodic Phonology (PP) claims, there It has been well-known for decades that all phonological rules apply within certain phonological (mainly syntactic) information: under the same segmental conditions, from cases when the application of a given phonological rule depends on nonutterance. The most convincing piece of evidence for the inevitability of PP comes the rules choose their domains of application. Although authors slightly differ as to for example, French liaison applies in phrases of a certain type but fails to do so in **Prosodic domains**

(2) b. un [savant]N [anglais]A'an English scientist': final consonant deletion a. un [savant] A [anglais] N'a learned Englishman': liaison

opposed to r-liaison in English (within the utterance). Even the same phonological several American dialects. rule may choose different domains in the dialects of the same language: in English, lthe case of final consonant liaison in French (within the phonological phrase) as similar structural descriptions and changes may apply within different domains, as is It is also evident that rules select their domains of application arbitrarily. Rules with darkening applies within the utterance in RP whereas it applies within the word in

marker which circumscribes a given rule's domain of application, at least in the case follows, then, that this empty skeletal unit can be conceived of as a general boundaryof segmental alternations, and rules taking constituents larger than the foot as their means something like the interplay of forces like government and licensing). It position, it means it blocks the application of lenition rules (where 'rule' of course boundary-marker that makes the beginning of the word a strong phonological domain. In CV phonology, the left word boundary is marked by the empty CV unit. If it is the

How does the boundary-marker work?

Connected speech has not been given much attention in CV phonology. Tobias Scheer word boundaries in others. Recall the findings of PP and notice that the picture is not parameter: in certain languages it applies on the edge of the utterance only, and at all but is inserted by the morpho-syntax. The insertion is governed by a simple (2001 and p.c.) has suggested that the boundary-marker is not present in the lexicon

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hand, although glottalised in isolation, change to a flap when followed by a vowelfinal I's are dark irrespective of the following segment. Word-final t's, on the other initial word. English dialect (described in, e.g., Nespor and Vogel 1986). In this dialect, all wordextraprosodicity (3b) analyses of two connected speech phenomena in an American mechanism with less brute force. The chart in (3) compares the insertion (3a) and the only inserted late by the morpho-syntax), this no-insertion analysis represents a (including phonotactic facts, which are difficult to explain if the boundary-marker is its application. Besides accounting for a wider set of empirical observations The boundary-markers not ignored by a given rule will delimit its domain by blocking arbitrarily decide to ignore it and treat it as a kind of extraprosodic skeletal material. fate being determined post-syntactically only; certain phonological rules will Scheer, that the boundary-marker is part of the representation throughout its career, its application of one rule but let go another. Thus we are forced to hypothesise, against domains. In addition, in the same utterance boundaries of the same type may block the as simple: constituents between the word and the utterance may also be designated as

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operates on the melodic tier, see Balogné 2001.) is, 'final consonant elision' takes place. (For the suggestion that V-to-C government from the word-initial vowel. Thus the /t/ will remain phonetically uninterpreted, that melody from finding a suitable landing site by absorbing the government emanating boundary of the domain of application for liaison, as in (4b), it prevents the floating invisible for the rule of liaison. However, when the boundary-marker serves as the position of the following word when the boundary-marker is extraprosodic, i.e., melody of the final consonant of the adjective, symbolised by /l/, docks onto the first c governed (and licensed), otherwise it remains floating and therefore unpronounced initial word. Apparently, this consonant can only land in a C position where it is The partial representation of un [savant]A [anglais]N in (4a) shows how the floating melody of certain word-final consonants attaches to the onset of the following vowelme present you with a possible analysis of French liaison, whereby the floating aprosodicity and the blocking effect of the boundary-marker, let

since he works with a VC skeleton, and ignores the variation due to prosodic structure. triggers the interpretation of the lexically floating melody, although his analysis is slighly different As noted in Szigetvári (1999; 62, fn. 68), it is being governed, rather than being licensed, which

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(4) anglais A a. liaison: un [savant]A [anglais]N ĉ c⇔V C 9 011 liaison: c to V 1111 [savant]N

CV < 22 Q 22 0 9 20 9 cia

difference: no governed empty c position is accessible for the floating melody in either way. Notice that in that case the presence or absence of the boundary-marker makes no In (5) the situation when the following word begins with a consonant is exemplified.

(5) no liaison: un [savant]A [francais]N

y g v a t Q CV • VCVCV

is some evidence for the existence of empty skeletal material. here is that even though word boundaries may become faded away phonetically, there to /h/ in 'syllable codas' (i.e., when dominated by an unlicensed C position). Although illustrative example, consider the case of s-aspiration in Spanish, whereby /s/ lenites v positions in general, will not block superficial, phonetic resyllabification. As an It is worth mentioning at this point that the boundary-marker, and in fact empty c and tienes espacio 'do you have room?' is pronounced tiene.[h] e[h].pacio2. The point issue in Section 3.2), i.e., lenited consonants do not strengthen back across words: word phonetically, they do not usually do so phonologically (but see more on this in connected speech word-final consonants resyllabify into the following vowel-initial

A typology of the effects of the extraprosodic boundary-marker

consonant/vowel-initial words in connected speech, and make a comparison of cross-In this section we take all the combinatorial possibilities of consonant/vowel-final and word and word-internal configurations.

Consonant-initial words

In the table in (6), the four possible combinations of words followed by a consonantidentical is borne out by the data. structures are provided. The fact that CV phonology predicts all these situations to be marker. At the bottom, for ease of comparison, the corresponding word-internal underlined position is affected by some phonological rule ignoring the boundarypositions on the CV-tier in each case, assuming that the segment occupying the initial word are sketched out, showing the patterning of empty and nonempty

² Cf. Kenstowitz (1994: 281)

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(6) Consonant-initial words:

... C<u>V</u> <_{CV}>CV ... a, V#C ...CVCV... ... CV <cv><u>C</u>V ... b. V#C ... <u>Cv <cv>CV</u> ... c. C#C ...CvCV... ... Cv <cv>CV ... d. C#C

cerca il suo cibo negli angoli della gabbia 'My hamster looks for its food in the corners of the cage'. irrespective of whether at the beginning or in the middle of a word: Il mio criceto underlined /tf/'s (spelt <c>) in the following example sentence turn into /J/, Italian intervocalic spirantisation (Nespor and Vogel 1986: 209), whereby all the way in both cross-word word-initial and word-internal positions is illustrated by For example, (6b), an intervocalic consonant affected by the phonology in the same

circles' with /sk/). across morpheme (tizkor 'at ten' with /sk/) as well as word boundaries (tiz kör 'ten exists as a static phonotactic constraint (*zk morpheme-internally), and it applies Hungarian regressive voicing assimilation exemplifies the configuration in (6c): it

as there is word-internally. tendency is for the extraprosodicity of the boundary-marker to create the same picture In sum, in all the situations in (6), it is correctly predicted that the cross-linguistic

Italian belonging to the strict type. independent of the strict/permissive dichotomy mentioned above, both English and an observation whose true nature is still unclear, but obviously this distinction is the boundary-marker resists extraprosodicity in the case of consonant-initial words changing shape post-lexically, which suggests that in languages of the English type the rule of intervocalic spirantisation, described above), with word-initial consonants position (i.e., licensed but ungoverned), as opposed to other languages, e.g. Italian (cf word-initial consonant (of lexical words) will always be in a strong phonological In addition, however, a parameter reveals itself. In certain languages, e.g. English, the

Vowel-initial words

1997). tendency for deleting the first vowel in all morphosyntactic environments (Casali resolution via vowel deletion, for example, it has been shown that there is a general identity, which is supported by plenty of data, at least for (7a); in cases of hiatus subtypes of cross-word hiatus: it is clear that again, CV Phonology predicts total Consider the table in (7), the vowel-initial equivalent of (6). (7a) and (b) show the two

(7) Vowel-initial words:

a. V#V ...CVcV... b. V#V ... Cv <cv>cV ... d. C#V

...CV...

¹ The voiced affricate /dʒ/ undergoes spirantisation alike (> /ʒ/).

which apply across word boundaries but not within words, e.g. word-final voicing in Sanskrit (which is problematic for most phonological theories since it is triggered by vowels and sonorant consonants, too – cf. Nespor and Vogel 1986; 230), or cross-word voicing in Slovak (Blaho 2003). ¹ A related issue posing problems for the theory is examples of processes (other than lengthening rules)

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noninitial positions - an observation which naturally follows from strict CV uses the Nawuri example to argue for an asymmetry existing between word-initial and in any framework except CV (and Classical Government) Phonology. In fact, Casali which never get centralised. This difference between (6a) and (7d) is quite unexpected medial vowels (as predicted in (6a)) as opposed to word-initial vowels, i.e., $C \# \underline{V} C$, the CV#C environment may be affected by the change in the same way as wordas in (7d), one of them being vowel centralisation in Nawuri and related languages edges. As Casali reports (unfortunately, without any examples), word-final vowels in sandwiching the vowel). What is of interest here is what happens to vowels at word respectively, which suggests that the trigger is the two nonempty consonants both 'closed' and 'open' syllables (in Strict CV Phonology, $C\underline{V}Cv$ and $C\underline{V}CV$ (Casali 1997: 502). Here high vowels become central in interconsonantal position, in Unfortunately, I have only come across few examples of vowels undergoing a process word configuration is not identical to the simple word-medial CV string, some empty skeletal material between the full positions, and as a result, the cross-In (7c) and (d), however, even if the boundary-marker is extraprosodic, there remain representations.

the system of Spanish. affecting 'coda' consonants (e.g., s-aspiration, already referred to above, or ninitial word, but cannot be trilled before a vowel-initial one (cf. (8)). What is an empty v, which cannot license it), may be trilled when followed by a consonantword-internal and word-final position (in CV Phonological terms, when followed by velarisation) apply differently, so this pattern seems to be the odd one out even within particularly intriguing here is that all those many other phonological rules of Spanish by Kenstowitz comes from Spanish: a 'coda' /r/ is trilled in emphatic speech in both in Kenstowitz (1994: 281), there are very few examples of this kind; in fact, which turns out to be a strength rather than a weakness of the theory since, as argued Recall that this is the situation which is straight against CV Phonology's predictions, may resyllabify completely into a licensed position and behave as any other 'onset' phonological resyllabification counts rather as an exception. One example described inspection of which leads to a three-way classification. First, the underlined C in (7c) If we turn our attention to (7c), we discover a number of cases illustrating it, a close

mar azul 'blue sea'	mar verde 'green sea'	martes 'Tuesday', mar 'sea'
no alternation possible. never a mee	Iree variation	trilled

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onset peers (9c). vowel-initial word (or suffix), which are pronounced as 'clear' as their word-internal I's become velarised, as in (9a-b), with the exclusion of word-final I's followed by a Another example is I-darkening in certain dialects of English, e.g. RP, whereby 'coda'

c. Clear I's: spell it, call Ann, spelling b. Dark I's: spell, spelt, shelter a. Clear I's: leap, sleep, fellow, mylord (9) Clear and dark I's in RP

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It position (traditionally referred to as ambisyllabicity). consonants do in fact resyllabify completely rather than taking an intermediate will be argued below that no convincing evidence has been found that these

rules, the (prosodic) word being the domain of rule application - an arbitrary feature e.g., in the case of Spanish s-aspiration already referred to above, or I-darkening of the rules themselves. word-boundary represented by the boundary-marker functions as a blockage for these certain American English dialects exemplifed in (3). In these cases we claim that the The second strategy that a word-final C may follow is remain a phonological coda 5

allophone in C#V is different from the word-medial one (in being stress-insensitive), of whether or not that vowel is stressed (10c). The point is that the cross-word pre-consonantally (10b), but flapped if the next word starts with a vowel, irrespective a stressed one ((10a), also in (3)). Word-final t's are (pre-)glottalised pre-pausally and an onset /t/ is flapped if followed by an unstressed vowel, but aspirated if followed by word-medial onset. One is the distribution of Standard American t-allophones, whose correctly predicted by CV Phonology (for an analysis, see Balogné 2001). well-documented characteristics are the following (cf. Balogné 2001). Within words, where the cross-word realisation of a consonant differs from both the coda and the 'ambisyllabic'. English readily illustrates this pattern, containing at least two rules Thirdly, the C may behave as neither an onset nor a coda but take a third form: it is

a. á[r]om atom, a[tn]ómic atomic (10) General American t-allophones

c. hi[r] Ann hit Ann, hi[r] Anita hit Anita b. hi['t] me hit me

whenever followed by an unstressed vowel word-internally (compare (11a) and (b)) tapping/flapping, with an output identical to that of t-flapping, intervocalically, Exactly the same happens in or any vowel across words (11c). (conservative) RP r-allophony. /r/ undergoes

(11) RP r-allophony

a. [r]: courage, very, sorry, baron, laurel

b. [r]: courageous, reduce, red, bright, Henry, walrus

c. [r]: for example, for instance, the other end

extraprosodic. The same word-final consonant, however, will remain uninfluenced by I claim, is government, which is not consumed by the boundary-marker when it is arrow). Across words (12b-c), the two will only be adjacent on the melodic tier, where consonant (12a) is adjacent to the following vowel both melodically (indicated by the basic idea behind it is the difference in adjacency between the prosody and the CV Phonology, see Balogné (2001), further elaborated on in Balogné (2002). The the melody of the vowel (β in (12b)) can have an effect on the consonant. This effect, simple arrow) and on the CV-tier (where the V licenses the C, indicated by the white melody in a theory operating with a host of empty skeletal positions. A word-medial theoretical equivalent of cross-word ambisyllabicity. For a possible analysis in Strict These examples illustrate the fact that the situation \underline{C} #V is special and calls for a

government emanating from the full vowel is needed to license and silence its vocalic the following word when the boundary-marker is not extraprosodic, and position (12c). the

		(12)
2 9	C⇔V	9
1	Û	
a ↓ β	<	V
R G		b
+	<	.Cv
	C v <cv> c⇔V</cv>	(12) aCV bCv <cv>cV</cv>
Î	0	<
	Û	
β	a <	
R		
	<	0
	0	1
	v cv c⇔V g	cCvevcV
	0	Vel
	Û	1:
B	9 <	1

h'(8)) are essentially any different. It may simply be the case that, quite unexpectedly examples by the rules applying in three different ways accordingly. The question is the English cases (t-flapping (10), r-tapping (11)) are distinguished from the other and exceptionally, there is no phonetic difference between the realisations of these whether the 'resyllabifying' rules described above (RP I-darkening (9), Spanish trilled /t/ will be flapped in General American, a governed /r/ will be tapped and a governed one of the two antagonistic forces may prove to be enough for a change. A governed government and licensing which produces a given allophone, but reference to only phonological rules may be of key importance: sometimes it is not the interaction of that they have become onsets. The exact definition of the structural descriptions of consonants in situations (12a) and (12b), and that is why the superficial impression is Thus, three possible combinations of skeletal and melodic adjacency are possible, and is sensitive to government and ignorant of licensing relations it has been shown that the appearance of the word-final floating consonantal material irrespective of the rest of the structure. Recall the discussion of French liaison above: /l/ will be clear in RP, a governed /r/ will be plain (rather than trilled) in Spanish,

Further issues

out the realisation of sound segments contain information about which prosodic category, at least in so-called 'strict' languages, and the phonological rules spelling In sum, the boundary-marker is assumed to be present to the left of each (lexical) simply accept the PP view (e.g., that of Nespor and Vogel 1986). constituents of the prosodic hierarchy, is beyond the scope of the present paper, so we sense. Formulating the syntax-phonology mapping algorithm, i.e., the formation of the constituents will block the rules, others will be skipped being 'extraprosodic' in some constituents serve as their domains of application. Boundary-markers delimiting those

are the languages which freely tolerate all types of consonant clusters word-initially and which allow for word-initial lenition (Greek and many Slavic languages such as Neither is the issue of so-called 'permissive' languages addressed in this paper. These boundary-marker need not be always licensed (Lowenstamm 1999). In contrast same way as in 'strict' languages, the only difference being that the permissive Lowenstamm's theory poses the boundary-marker at the beginning of words in the or Berber have been claimed to belong to this type). In these languages Polish, as well as modern occidental Afro-Asiatic languages such as Moroccan Arabic Greek s-voicing as applying within the intonational phrase. If the suggestions made in bounded by the prosodic constituents, e.g., Nespor and Vogel (1986: 213) analyses phenomena, it must be remarked that even in 'permissive' languages there are rules languages (Scheer 2001, and Seigneur-Froli 2004 for Greek). Considering cross-word Scheer's modification claims that the boundary-marker is not present at all in such

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certain occurrences of the boundary-marker are justified in permissive languages, too this paper are accepted, and it is the boundary-marker that blocks rule application,

subject for further study. two well-defined classes, but its relation to the strict vs. permissive dichotomy is a clear that the stress-sensitive vs. insensitive distinction divides 'strict' languages into initial one. Other languages, like Romance (e.g. French), are stress-insensitive. It is systems, i.e., making a distinction between the onsets of stressed and unstressed vowels in their propensity to lenite, the stressed position being as strong as the word-English and Germanic languages in general are well-known for being stress-sensitive A related issue is the additional factor influencing the conditions on lenition: stress,

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