

Syllabic Structure and Licensing
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In this talk, I will examine the claims that have been made within two approaches toward syllable structure, namely Government Phonology (and varieties such as Head-driven Phonology (van der Hulst and Ritter 1999; van der Hulst 2006) and Radical CV Phonology, RCVP (van der Hulst (2005)). Despite the apparent occurrence of syllable types of great complexity (both in terms of the numbers and types of segments in onsets and rhymes), frameworks of this sort have maintained that the complexity of syllables is extremely restricted with simple CV forming the unmarked case (cf. Lowenstamm 1996). I will show how deviations from the unmarked case (in the form of branching constituents and empty constituents) are possible if licensed. A unified notion of licensing restricts an accumulation of marked structures (as shown in van der Hulst 2006).

References:

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