Non-iterativity, icy targets, and the need for non-linear representations in feature spreading

Adam G. McCollum, Rutgers University

Much Structuralist and early Generative research argued that unbounded spreading patterns support the necessity of non-linear representational systems. Non-linear representations were developed within a range of different theoretical frameworks: Firthian prosodies (Harris & Welmers 1942; Waterson 1956), as well as Hockett's (1947) 'components' and Harris' (1951) 'long components.' Later, autosegmental and metrical structures were leveraged to account for iterative feature spreading (Halle & Vergnaud 1981; Steriade 1981). In fact, Halle & Vergnaud (1981) contend that the analysis of bidirectional and unidirectional harmonies requires the existence of both autosegmental and metrical structures. In one sense, the arguments advanced in these earlier works are set within serial, rule-based formalisms and are thus not immediately relevant for a constraint-based grammar. However, in this talk I argue that the constraint-based analysis of bounded spreading patterns provides further support for the necessity of enriched representations. Drawing on insights from McCarthy (2004), Smolensky (2006), and Jurgec (2011), I propose an analysis that can successfully model non-iterative spreading, as well the behavior of *icy targets* (Jurgec 2011), elements that undergo but do not propagate the harmonic feature.