U-SUBSTITUTION: WHERE PERCEPTS, PROXIMITY AND PROSODY MEET

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Rhotic Substitution

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Three stages in acquisition of [B] (Ben-David 2001; Cohen 2015)

 $Deletion \rightarrow Substitution \rightarrow Faithful$

- Substitution is a transitional phase between deletion and faithful production (e.g. Freitas 1994, Cohen 2015, Cohen & Ben-David 2016)
 - Quantity-wise, substitution is a small minority of the cases
 - Nevertheless, this small minority is systematic



Background

Method

Quantity

Prosody

Segmental Conclusions

- Background
- Method
- Quantity
- Prosody & Percepts
- Segmental Environment
- □ Conclusions

Hebrew [K] in Adults

Background

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- Adult Realization of [B]
 - Uvular Approximant (Bolozky & Kreitman 2007, Cohen et al. 2015)
 - Prosodic positions differ in Phoneme Consistency, the degree of allophonic variation (Cohen et al. 2015):
 - Word-final (_#): little variation
 - Intervocalic (V_V): slightly more variation
 - Word-initial (#_): substantial variation

Acquisition of [K]

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BackgroundMethodQuantityProsodySegmentalConclusionsImage: Among the last consonants to be acquired (Lavie
1978, Ben-David 2001; 2014)

- Acquired first in word-final position, then intervocalic, then word-initial (Cohen 2015; Cohen & Ben-David 2016)
 - Phoneme Consistency facilitates acquisition

Acquisition of [K]



 Substantial inter-child variation in quality of
 Substitute Category (henceforth: SC) (Ben-David 2001; Ben-David & Bat-El 2016)

Selection of SC



- □ Today we look at:
 - Percepts (Phoneme Consistency)
 - Prosody
 - Segmental Environment



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Prosody plays a role in substitution

- **Substitution:** ends in codas before onsets
- **SCs:** Sonorants [I, j, ŋ] in onsets, fricative [x] in coda

Data

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- Corpus: Child Language Project (directed by Outi Bat-El and Galit Adam)
 - Two typically-developing monolingual children acquiring Hebrew: SR (a boy) and RM (a girl)
 - Recording started before the first recognisable word
 - Weekly sessions
- Developmental periods are determined by vocabulary size, not chronological age (Adam and Bat-El 2008; 2009)

Data Analysis



- 1. Deletion
- 2. Substitution
- 3. Faithful

Other strategies (e.g. metathesis) were negligible

Data Analysis



- 1. Segmental Properties (place, manner)
- 2. Prosodic Position
 - Word initial (#_)
 - Intervocalic (V_V)
 - Word final (_#)
- 3. Adjacent Vowels (height, backness, roundness)
- 4. Nearby Consonants (place, manner)

Choice of SC

		-										
Substitute		SR	RM			erall	Example					
Х	3	5%	127	55%	130	45%	/рав'рав/→[bax'bax] 'butterfly' (SR, 1;08.24)					
j	17	29%	22	9%	39	13%	/ˈʁoʃ/→[ˈjoʃ] 'head' (RM,1;09.27)					
g	18	31%	6	3%	24	8%	/ˈkenguʁu/→[guˈgum] 'kangaroo' (SR, 1;04.10)					
W	9	15%	13	6%	22	8%	/?aʁˈje/→[?awˈje] 'lion' (SR, 1;05.04)					
1	6	10%	15	6%	21	7%	/baʁˈvaz/→[balˈvað] 'duck' (SR, 1;11.02)					
d	0	0%	10	4%	10	3%	/ ' $\operatorname{kaaf} \rightarrow [\operatorname{'daf}]$ 'noise' (RM, 1;10.13)					
k	2	3%	6	3%	8	3%	/во'а/→[ko'a] 'see 1.sg.fm.pres' (RM, 2;08.02)					
t	0	0%	7	3%	7	2%	/ʁaˈkevet/→[taˈkevet] 'train' (RM, 2;01.06) /aˈxeʁ/→[ˈxen] 'other' (RM, 1;10.28)					
n	1	2%	5	2%	6	2%						
V	0	0%	6	3%	6	2%	/ˈseʁet/→[ˈsevet] 'movie' (RM, 2;01.06)					
m	0	0%	6	3%	6	2%	/naxˈziʁ/→[naxˈzim] 'return 1.pl.fut' (RM, 2;04.05					
b	2	3%	1	0.4%	3	1%	/si'puɛ/→[sis'pub] 'story' (RM, 2;05.15)					
ſ	0	0%	3	1%	3	1%	/ва kevet/→[ʃaa kevet] 'train' (RM, 2;01.19)					
р	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%	/'peвах/→['pepa] 'flower' (RM, 2;01.19)					
3	1	2%	0	0%	1	0.3%	/dʒiˈʁafa/→['ʒiʒa] 'giraffe' (SR, 1;05.04)					
f	0	0%	1	0.4%	1	0.3%	/gaˈzaʁti/→[gaˈzafti] 'cut 1.sg.past' (RM, 2;11.14					
S	0	0%	1	0.4%	1	0.3%	у₀ /воʻа/→[soʻa] 'see 1.sg.fm.pres' (RM, 2;09.13)					
Z	0	0%	1	0.4%	% 1 0.3% /li∫'boв/→[li∫'poz] 'break inf.' (RM, 2;01.19)							
ç	0	0%	1	0.4%	1	0.3%	/letsa'jeʁ/→[lesa'jeʕa] 'draw inf.' (RM, 2;03.29)					
Total	59		233		292							









- Differences among the two children (Bat-El 2012; Cohen 2012; Gafni 2012)
 - SR: segments fast, prosody slow
 - RM: segments slow, prosody fast





Prosodic Factors

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Larger variability in onsets, relative stability in coda

Phoneme Consistency (Cohen 2015)

	Word-init	ial		Interv	ocalic		Word-final		
	SCs	Substitu	tions	SCs	Substitu	tions	SCs	Substitu	itions
RM	[x]	48%	24	[x]	32%	17	[x]	71%	72
	[1]	12%	6	[j]	17%	9	[j]	6%	6
	[d]	10%	5	[d]	9%	5	[w]	6%	6
	[j]	6%	3	[w]	9%	5	[1]	4%	4
	[g]	4%	2	[t]	7%	4	[m]	3%	3
	[k]	4%	2	[v]	6%	3	[k]	2%	2
	[n]	4%	2	[k]	4%	2	[n]	2%	2
	[w]	4%	2	[1]	4%	2	[b]	1%	1
	[m]	2%	1	[m]	4%	2	[g]	1%	1
	[s]	2%	1	[p]	4%	2	[t]	1%	1
	[ʃ]	2%	1	[g]	2%	1	[v]	1%	1
	[t]	2%	1	[n]	2%	1	[z]	1%	1
				[ʃ]	2%	1	[?]	1%	1

Prosodic Factors

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Less data, but same tendencies

	Word-ini	tial		Interv	ocalic		Word-final			
	SCs	Substitu	itions	SCs	Substitu	tions	SCs	Substitu	tions	
SR	[w]	100%	1	[g]	39%	16	[w]	50%	6	
				[j]	37%	15	[x]	17%	2	
				[1]	10%	4	[g]	8%	1	
				[b]	5%	2	[j]	8%	1	
				[k]	5%	2	[1]	8%	1	
				[w]	2%	1	[n]	8%	1	
				[3]	2%	1				

Cross-Sectional Data



Method

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Segmental 🔪 🤇

Conclusions

Cross-sectional study: Cohen & Ben-David (2016)

Quantity

- 581 children
- 9748 K-targets
 - 985 (10.1%) K-substitutions: Initial (302), medial (307) and final (376)
- Tokens classified by SC type and prosodic position

Cross-Sectional Data

Background

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Conclusions

Variability in onsets, stability in coda

Quantity

Consistent with longitudinal data

Word-initial		Interv	ocalic	Word	Word-final			
SCs	Substitutions	SCs	Substitutions	SCs	Substitutions			
[j]	55%	[j]	57%	[X]	87%			
[1]	22.7%	[1]	23%	[ŋ]	9%			
[w]	8.9%	[w]	9%	[1]	3.8%			
[X]	4.6%	[X]	5%	[k]	0.2%			
[ŋ]	2.5%	[ŋ]	2.8%					
[n]	2.4%	[n]	1.9%					
[k]	1.9%	[g]	1.3%					
[g]	0.9%							
[d]	0.7%							
[h]	0.4%							

Segmental Factors

- Background Method Quantity Prosody Segmental Conclusions
 Reminder we look at nearby vowels and consonants
 - Why Vowels?
 - Consonant-Vowel assimilation (e.g. Hyman 1973, Hume 1990; 1994; 1996, Pulleyblank 1989, Broselow & Niyondagara 1989, Mester & Ito 1989, Lahiri & Evers 1991, Padgett 2011)
 - Front vowels (i, e) with front (coronal) consonants
 - Back vowels (a, o, u) with back (dorsal) consonants
 - Why Consonants?
 - Consonant harmony (e.g. Lewis 1936/1951, Cruttenden 1978, Levelt 1994, Berg 1992, Rose 2000, Goad 1997, Pater 1997, Pater and Werle 2001, for a review see Gafni 2012)

Preceding Vowel



SCs harmonic with Vs

- Coronals after front vowel (86%)
- Dorsals after back vowel (65%)
- **Labials** are negligible throughout

	Preceding Vowel	LAB		C	OR	D	OR	Total	
SR	Front	0	0%	12	86%	2	14%	14	
	Back	2	5%	13	30%	28	65%	43	
	#	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	1.	

Preceding Vowel



Dorsals > Coronals in all environments

Dorsals after **back** (74%) > **Dorsals** after **front** (54%)

	Preceding Vowel	I	LAB	C	OR	D	OR	Total
RM	Front	8	15%	16	31%	28	54%	52
	Back	7	6%	25	20%	91	74%	123
	#	1	2%	19	38%	30	60%	50
	С	0	0%	4	50%	4	50%	8

Preceding Vowel

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- \square RM compared to SR:
 - Period 1-10 Identical, SCs harmonic with Vs

Later – Dorsals > Coronals

		Preceding Vowel]	LAB	C	COR	Γ	OOR	Total
RM	P. 1-10	Front	1	7%	10	71%	3	21%	14
		Back	4	10%	11	27%	26	63%	41
		#	1	8%	9	75%	2	17%	12
		С	0	0%	1	100%	0	0%	1
	P. 11-20	Front	3	13%	4	17%	16	70%	23
		Back	1	2%	8	13%	51	85%	60
		#	0	0%	9	43%	12	57%	21
		С	0	0%	3	60%	2	40%	5
	P. 21-44	Front	4	27%	2	13%	9	60%	15
		Back	2	9%	5	23%	15	68%	22
		#	0	0%	1	6%	16	94%	17
		С	0	0%	0	0%	2	100%	2

Preceding Consonant



We also look at nearby consonants

Examples of full and partial (place) harmony

	Surface Form	Target	Gloss	Child	Period	Age
Full harmony	'pe p a	'pe s ax	'flower'	RM	16	2;01.19
	va'vod	va' s od	'pink'	RM	9	1;11.18
	gu' g um	'kengu u u	'kangaroo'	SR	2	1;04.10
Partial harmony	'tuul	ka'du ʁ	'ball'	RM	2	1;05.14
	sijaa	si' s a	'boat'	SR	4	1;05.15
	'kakəl	'trakto r	'tractor'	SR	3	1;05.08

Preceding Consonant



	Preceding Consonant	Ι	LAB		COR		OR	Total
RM	LAB	8	16%	8	16%	35	69%	51
	COR	6	8%	21	27%	51	65%	78
	DOR	0	0%	11	31%	25	69%	36
	No Preceding Consonant	2	3%	23	34%	43	63%	68

Preceding Consonant



	Preceding Consonant	Ι	LAB		COR		OR	Total
SR	LAB	2	18%	4	36%	5	45%	11
	COR	0	0%	13	81%	3	19%	16
	DOR	0	0%	2	11%	16	89%	18
	No Preceding Consonant	0	0%	6	43%	8	57%	14

Interim Summary



Segmental Cumulative Effect

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SR: Cumulative effect

Substitution mostly when V and C are harmonic

Consistent with typology: Consonant harmony across homorganic vowels is less marked than non-homorganic (Levelt 1994, Stoel-Gammon 1996, Pater & Werle 2001)

			Ι	LAB			COR	DOR			Total
SR	Front	LAB	0	0%		1	100%		0	0%	1
		COR	0	0%		10	83%		2	17%	12
		DOR	0	0%		0	0%		0	0%	0
	Back	LAB	2	20%		3	30%		5	50%	10
		COR	0	0%		3	75%		1	25%	4
		DOR	0	0%		2	11%		16	89%	18

Segmental Cumulative Effect



			I	LAB		COR		DOR		Total
RM	Front	LAB	0	0%		2	67%	1	33%	3
		COR	0	0%		2	50%	2	50%	4
		DOR	0	0%		5	100%	0	0%	5
	Back	LAB	2	13#		0	0%	14	88%	16
		COR	0	0%		1	20%	4	80%	5
		DOR	0	0%		3	43%	4	57%	7

Conclusions



Which factors determine the selection of **Substitute Category**?

- Percepts (i.e. Phoneme Consistency)
- Prosody
- Segmental Environment

Conclusions



Predicted by Phoneme Consistency (Cohen 2015)

Segmental factors play a role as well

- Contribute to selection of place of articulation in early substitution
- **Two stages**, similarly to Quebec French (Rose 2000; 2003):
 - Stage I: Assimilatory (C-V assimilation / Consonant harmony)
 - Stage II: **Non-assimilatory** (Dorsal [x]), skipped by SR





Effect of phoneme frequency across prosodic positions?

□ Acoustic cues for /B/ in SCs? (see Knight et al. 2007)

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Thank you vewy much!

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