

## The Interplay between Morphology and Phonology in Faroese

In this talk I will address the Morphology-Phonology Interplay (MPI) in Faroese (FA) by first looking at Morphology-Phonology-Lexicon interplay, which is divided into i) Non-Phonological Vowel alternations and ii) Non-Phonological Consonant alternations. The Morphology-Phonology-Lexicon interplay are the result of different historical changes in the history FA, as the *i*-umlaut and the skerping (hardening), [lɪkva] *lúgva* ‘lie.INF’ ~ [lʊi:jʊɪ] *lýgur* ‘lie.2./3.P.SG.IND’. The examples show also non-phonological-consonant alternations between [kv] and [j].

Non-Phonological-Consonant Alternations will further be illustrated with examples of [ð] and [ɣ] > Ø, which has resulted in [v] and [j] insertion into hiatus, *fegin* > [fe:jɪn]<sub>ω</sub> ‘happy.NOM.SG’, *moðin* > [mo:jɪn]<sub>ω</sub> ‘moldy.NOM.SG’. The inserted consonants are non-phonological, as dialect use such as [sø:vɪɪ] for the phonological expected, but non-existent \*[sø:vɪɪ] *søgur* show.

When a vowel-initial suffix, for example the accusative singular *-an*, is added, the result is not a word-based morphological form \*[<sub>σ</sub>fe:ɔjiɔnan] *feginan*, but the good bi-syllabic prosodic word [fe:jɪn] *fegin* ‘happy.ACC.SG.M’. This means that the substance of morphology is in this case conditioned by phonology since speaker chose the troche, see also Inkelas (2014: 44).

Next, I address Morphologically Derived Environment Effects (MDEE), where phonological alternations, which are triggered in derived environment may fail to apply, when the same phonological environment occurs in nonderived environments.

In her discussion on morphologically derived environment effects, Inkelas (2014: 242) points out that “the definition what constitutes a morphologically derived effect is tricky”, but she says further that there are well known cases where the trigger and the target of a phonological alternation fall on opposite sides of morpheme boundary.

MDEE affecting vowels is in *kalla+i* > [kʰatɪ] *kalli* ‘call.1.P.SG.IND’, *kúlu* => *kúlu+utur* > [kʰu:ɪʊtʊɪ] ‘hunchbacked’ and for example *evni-ir* > [ɛvnɪɪ] ‘subject.NOM./ACC.PL’.

MDEE affecting consonants can be exemplified with palatalization and lack thereof. In simplex words palatalization of the velar consonants *k* and *g* in front of front, high and mid vowels is the rule, *kyn* [tʰi:n] ‘gender.NOM.SG’, *kemur* [tʰe:mʊ] ‘come.2./3.P.SG.IND’. There is no palatalization in (non-derived) loanwords, *Kina* [kʰi:na] ‘China’, and *kiosk* [kʰi:ʊsk]. Note now, that in derived environment we have palatalization: [kʰi:ʊstʰɪn]. This will be addressed in the talk.

Metathesis of the *-sk* sequence is an example of MDEE; it happens when the neuter suffix *-t* is added to the inflectional stem: *feskur* [fɛskʊ] ~ *feskt* [fɛkst] ‘fresh.NOM.SG.M/NOM.SG.N’. This will be tackled in the talk as an alternation that is motivated by perception. Other consonant deletions that will be mentioned are *dimmur* > *dimt* ‘lucky’, *heppin-* : *hepn-an* ‘lucky’ and *lenda* ‘to land’ : *lend+di* > *lendi* ‘landed’, *lend+t* > *lent* ‘has landed’.

Finally, I will address the shortening rule, where long vowels are shortened in front of two or more consonant. A typical example is [ku:lʊ] *gulur* ~ [kʊlt] *gult* ‘yellow.NOM.SG.M/NOM.SG.N’.

Árnason (2011: 72) questions the status of this rule as a synchronic rule in Faroese phonology. Instead, he suggests that alternations like those above have been morphologized. Others disagree and point out that the alternations are not fossilized in the lexicon but should be solved with phonological means (Furtuna 2015: 204; Petersen and Voeltzel, (in preparation)). Note however, that if it is a phonological rule in FA, it is restricted to simplex words. In compounds we observe at least two strata in the language, that can be illustrated with *matgerð* [ˈmat,tɛ:ɹ] ‘cooking’, *matligur* [ˈmat,li:jʊ] ‘full of food’ and the recent *matbloggur* [ˈmɛat,plɔk:ʊ] ‘food-blog’. The former two words are old in the language and show a shortening of /ɛa/ > [a] / \_\_\_\_ CC, the latter new, with no shortening. In MDEE (here in: compounds) there are many exceptions to the shortening rule, as when speakers have generalized the prefix *ó-* ‘no’ as [œu:] for expected [œ] in front of CC, *ófrælsur* ‘un-free’. The intention is to illustrate this with further examples from particle + verb compounds, as *sigá mót* ‘protest.INF’ and the compounded verb *mótsiga* with a long vowel [œu:] for expected [œ] / \_\_\_\_ CC. The reason in some of these cases is lexical transparency, as speakers may find [ˈmœt,si:ja] opaque.

The talk is intended to give researcher that work with language technology an overview of some topics that may be of interest, as e.g. how to recognized lack of palatalization in the non-derived *kiosk*, and palatalization in the derived *kioskin*, and alternations between long and short vowels in especially compounds.

## References

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