

Kinds of sound change

SPLIT

- Sans. *s* > *ṣ* /r,u,k,i,j_

agni 'fire' + *su* 'loc.pl.' > *agniṣu* 'between the fires'

vāk 'word' + *su* 'loc.pl.' > *vākṣu* 'between the words'

(*ruki* is also found in Avestan, Lithuanian and Old Church Slavonic)

SPLIT

- f > h word-initially in Spanish:

farīna > *harina* 'flour'

fabulāri > *hablar* 'speak'

focus > *fuego* 'fire'

fructus > *fruto* 'fruit'

SPLIT

- Lat. k > Fr. s, ʃ, k:

centum ['kentũ] 'hundred' > *cent* [sã]

cantāre [kan'ta:re] > *chanter* [ʃãte] 'to sing'

clārus ['kla:rus] > *claire* [kle:R] 'light, clear'

cor [kor] > *coeur* [kœ:R] 'heart'

MERGER: Spanish “yeísmo”

pollo ‘chicken’ vs. *poyo* ‘stone bench’

se cayó (al suelo) *pero no se calló* (siguió hablando)
‘he fell but he did not stop talking’.

MERGER

- Spanish <v> /β/, /v/ > /b/ [b, β]:

ventana 'window', *vaca* 'cow', *calvario* 'Calvary', *clavo* 'nail'

vs.

botón 'button', *bolsa* 'bag', *nabo* 'turnip'

MERGER: Non-high Vs in Sanskrit, a, e, o > a.

PIE	PII	Sanskrit	Avestan	Latin	
*k̂m̂tóm	*ĉatám	śatám	satəm	centu	‘hundred’
*ĝónu	*ĵánu	jánu	zānu	genū	‘knee’
*ĝ ^h éi-m̂	*ĵ ^h imá-	himá-	zima-	hiems	‘winter’/ ‘snow’
*k ^w ó-	*ká-	ká-	kō	quis	‘who?, what?’
*g ^w ou-	*gau-	go	gau-	bōs, bov-	‘cow’
*g ^{wh} ormó-	*g ^h armá-	gharmá-	garəma-	formus	‘warmth, heat’
*w ^l k ^w o-	*w ^l ka-	*v ^l ka-	vəhrka-	lupus	‘wolf’

CONDITIONED MERGER: Latin rhotacism

- Proto-Italic *s > Latin r /V_V

rūs 'field', *rūsticus* vs. *rūralis*

opus vs. *opera* 'work(s)'

corpus vs. *corpora* 'body(ies)'

pūs vs. *pūrulentus* 'pus, purulent'

flōs, *flōris* 'flower'

honōs, *honōris* 'honor'

CONDITIONED MERGER: Intervocalic voicing

- /p,t,k/ > /b,d,g/ /V_V in Spanish

Lat. *apothēca* > Sp. *bodega* 'wine cellar'

Lat. *capanna* > Sp. *cabaña* 'shed'

Lat. *pater* > Sp. *padre* 'father'

Total local regressive assimilation

Lat. octō, nocte, factō

>

It. otto 'eight', notte 'night', fatto 'done'

Total local progressive assimilation

PIE *kolnis > Lat. *collis* 'hill'

Aqu. *Ombe* > Old Basq. *umme* 'boy'

Aqu. *sembe* > *semme > *seme* 'son'

Partial local regressive assimilation

PIE *swep-no > Lat. *somnus* 'dream'

Sp. *imposible, inteligente, increíble*

Sp. *mizmo, dezde*

Partial local progressive assimilation

Basque palatalization:

laiño 'cloud'

iñor 'no one'

illargi 'moon'

illun 'dark'

iñddar 'strength'

Distant (regressive) assimilation

PIE *penk^we > Lat. *k^wink^we* 'five'

umlaut: PG *gastiz > Old Eng. *ġiest* 'guest'

Regressive dissimilation

Lat. *peregrīnus* > It. *pellegrino*, Fr. *pèlerin* 'pilgrim'.

Grassmann's Law:

Pre-Greek *thrikh-s > Gr. *thriks* vs. *thrikh-os > *trikhos* 'hair (nom/gen)'

Pre-Greek *threph-s-ō > Gr. *threpsō* vs. *threph-ō > *trephō* 'I (will) rear'

Progressive dissimilation

Lat. *arbor* > Sp. *árbol* 'tree'.

Suff. *-al*: *sōlāris*, *lūnāris* (cf. *boreālis*, *austrālis*).

Local dissimilation

Lat. *hominem, nōminem, fémina*

>

***omne, *nomne, *emna**

>

omre, nomre, emra

>

Sp. *hombre* 'man', *nombre* 'name', *hembra* 'female'

Vowel shifts

- **Lowering:** Pre-Fr. *[vĩ] > Fr. *vin* [vɛ̃] ‘wine’.
- **Raising:** Old Eng. *ham* [ha:m] > Mod. Eng. *home* [ho:m] (RP [həʊm]) ‘home’
- **Fronting:** Basque *zu* > Zub. Basq. *zü* [zy] ‘you’.
- **Backing:** Old Pre-Eng. *dægās > Old Eng. *dagās* ‘days’.
- **Rounding:** Early Mod. Eng. *water* [watər] > Mod. Eng. *water* [wɔ:tə].
- **Unrounding:** Ger. *Bücher* [byxə] vs. Lux. *Bicher* [bɪʃə] (OHG. [bøxər]) ‘books’.
Zub. Basq. *mündü, mündia* ‘(the) world’.

Deletion

- **Aphaeresis:** Lat. *apothēca* > Sp. *bodega*, Sp. *ahorita* > Mex. Sp. *horita*, *acaso* > *caso* ‘perhaps’, *episcopal* > *piscopal* ‘of the bishop’.
- **Syncope:** Lat. *comparāre* > Sp. *comprar*, *fabulāre* > *fablar*, Lat. *populu(m)* > Fr. *peuple*, Sp. *pueblo* ‘people’, Lat. *homine* > Rom. **omne*.
- **Apocope:** In Spanish, Lat. *-e* is dropped after a dental (l, r, n, s, θ) or yod: *pane* ‘bread’, *sole* ‘sun’, *sūdāre* ‘sweat’.
Old Eng. *sticca* > Mod. *stick*, *sunu* > *son*, *mōna* > *moon*.

Insertion

- **Prothesis:** Lat. *spatham* > Sp. *espada*, *spīritum* > *espíritu*, *schola* > *escuela*, *scūtum* > *escudo*.
- **Epenthesis:** Fr. *messenger*, *passager* > Eng. *messenger*, *passenger*...
- **Anaptyxis:** Lat. *calvāria* > Sp. *calavera*, Proto-Slavic **gordŭ* ‘town’ > Rus. *gorod*, Lat. *libru(m)* >> Basq. *liburu*. [*Rihanna úmberélla*, *Bush nucular*].
- **Excrescence:** Eng. *something* > *somepthing*, Lat. *tremulare* > Fr. *trembler* ‘to tremble’, Lat. *fēmina* > Sp. *hembra*, *hominem*, *nomināre*...
- **Paragoge:** Eng. *(Inter)net* >> Fin. *netti*, Basq. *Parise*, *Akize*, *Miarritze*, *Pabe*, *Bordele*...

Diphthongization

- Proto-Romance stressed *ε, *ɔ regularly became diphthongs in Spanish:
*petra, *tɛmpo, *bɛne, *bɔno, *lɔco, etc.
- Old Eng. breaking: a > ea, e > eo, i > io /_{r,l}C
*kald > *ceald* 'cold', *erθe > *eorþe* 'earth', *nǣh > *nēah* 'near', *sǣh > *seah*, 'saw', etc.

Diphthongization

- Old Norse breaking: e > ea > ia /_(C)Ca, e > eo > io /_(C)Cu (with V-loss)
*heldaz > *hialdr* ‘battle’, *erpu > *iōrp* ‘earth’, etc.
- Proto-western-Nilotic > Mabaan:
*i > ie, *u > uɫ, *ɛ > iɛ, *ɔ > ua; *ii > iie, *uu > uuɫ, *ɛɛ > iie, *ɔɔ > uua

Monophthongization

Lat. *aurum* > Sp. *oro* 'gold'

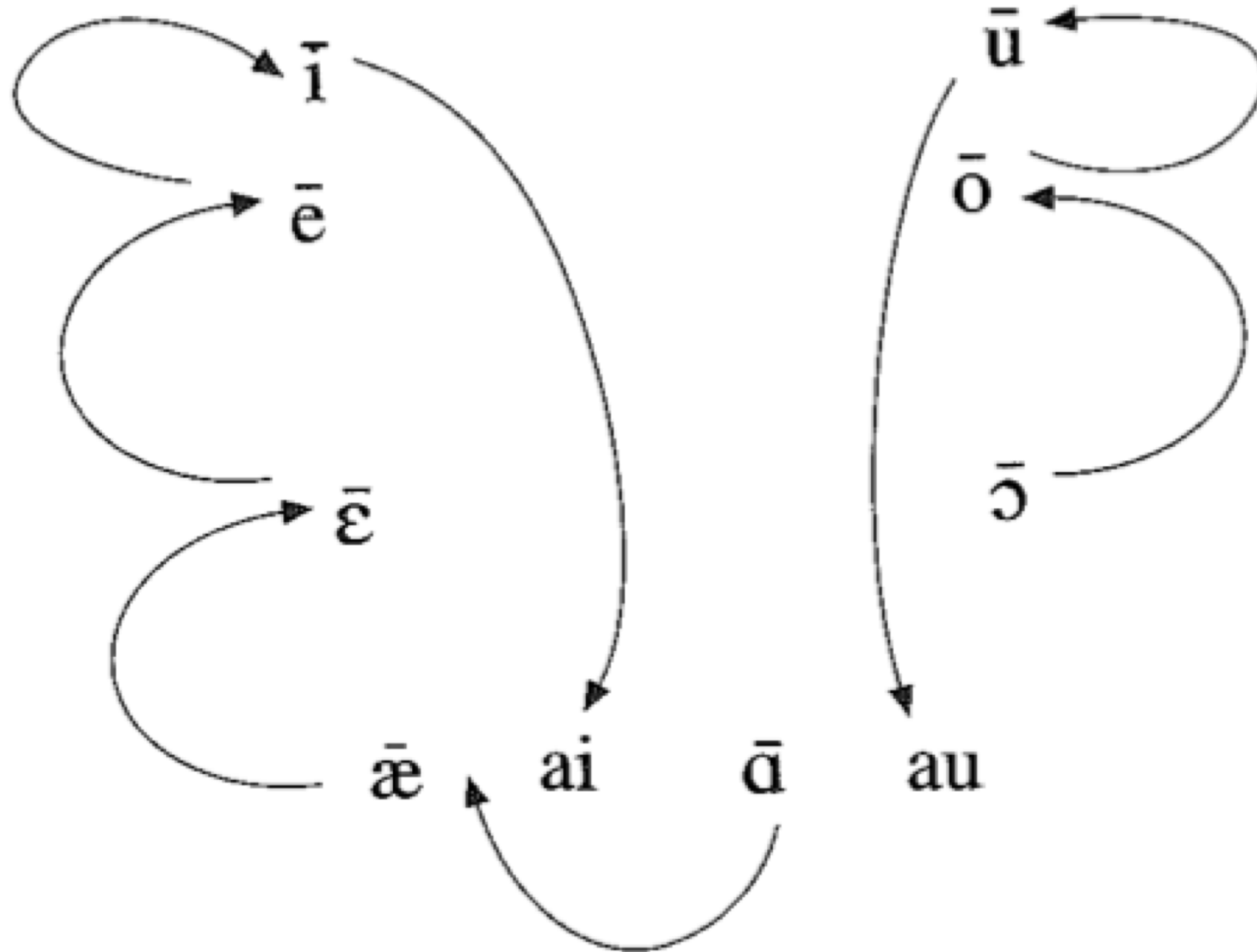
taurum > *toro* 'bull'

causa > *cosa* 'thing'

Old Fr. *eux* [ew] > [∅] 'them'

aube [awb] > [o:b] 'dawn'

Chain shifts: English Great Vowel Shift



Chain shifts: English Great Vowel Shift

- GVS, long vowels of Middle Eng. $a: \rightarrow e: \rightarrow i: \rightarrow a\text{ɪ}$ (Ringe & Eska 2013: 91)

c. 1400

$b\text{i:t}\text{ə}$

>

$b\text{e:t}$

>

$b\text{ɛ:t}\text{ə}$

>

$ab\text{a:t}\text{ə}$

>

$b\text{o:t}$

>

$b\text{o:t}$

>

$ab\text{u:t}\text{ə}$

>

c. 1500

$b\text{a}\text{ɪ}t$

‘bite’

$b\text{i:t}$

‘beet’

$b\text{e:t}$

‘beat’

$ab\text{a:t}$ (> $ab\text{ɛ:t}$)

‘abate’

$b\text{o:t}$

‘boat’

$b\text{u:t}$

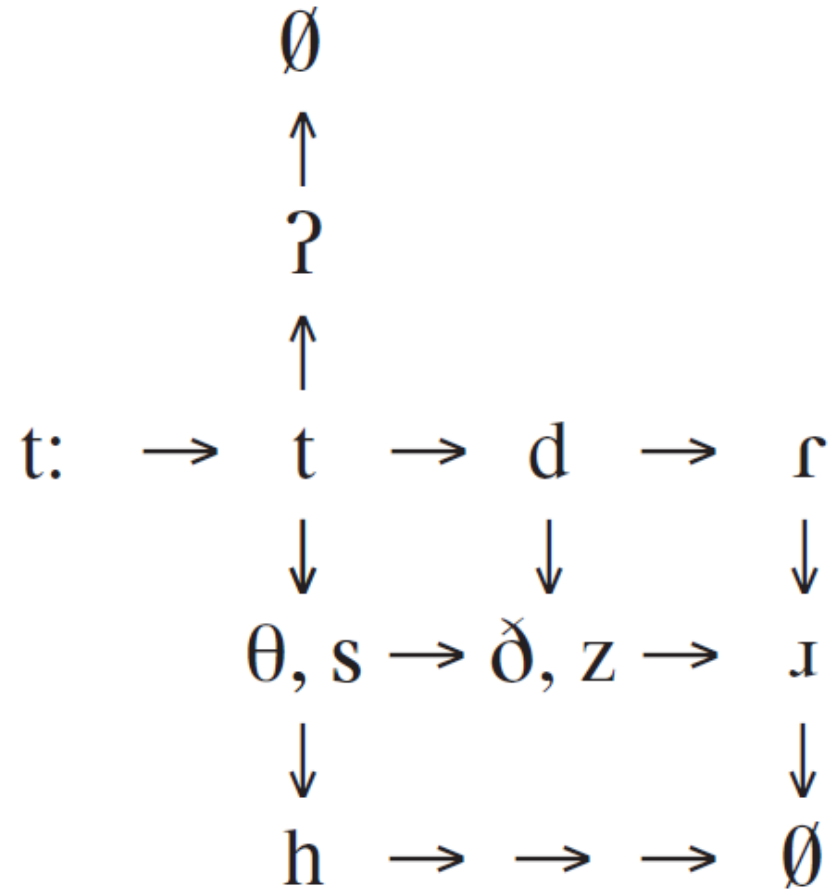
‘boot’

$ab\text{ə}t$

‘about’

Lenition

- Typical lenition paths of long /t:/ (Ringe & Eska 2013: 84)



Lenition

Mande	*kun	'head'	>	Mandigo	<i>kun</i>
			>	Susu	<i>xuni</i>
			>	Kpelle	<i>wu(n)</i>

Voicing

Lat. *lupu(m)* > Sp. *lobo* 'wolve'

uīta > *vida* 'life'

fīcu(m) > *higo* 'fig'

Fortition

- Biali (Oti-Volta Oriental, Gur) (Dimmendaal 2011)

*jãã > *jãã > *nãã* 'drink'

*jã > *jã > *nã* 'know'

Devoicing

- German *Auslautverhärtung*:

Tag [ta:g̊]/[ta:k] vs. *Tage* [ta:gə] ‘day’

Bad [ba:t] vs. *Bäder* [ˈbɛ:dɐ] ‘bathroom’

Maus [maʊ̯s] vs. *Mäuse* [ˈmɔʏzə] ‘mouse’

Palatalization

- Basque palatalization:

laiño 'cloud'

iñor 'no one'

illargi 'moon'

illun 'dark'

- Coll. Eng. t+y [j] > [tʃ]:

Watcha doing?

I betcha!

Didja know?

Nasalization

Fr. *bon* 'good' [bõn] > [bõ] > /bõ/

Fr. *vin* 'wine' [vĩn] > *[vĩ] > [vẽ]

rein 'kidney' [rẽn] > [Rẽ] > /Rẽ/

Rhotacism

- Proto-Italic *s > Latin r /V_V

rūs 'field', *rūsticus* vs. *rūralis*

opus vs. *opera* 'work(s)'

corpus vs. *corpora* 'body(ies)'

pūs vs. *pūrulentus* 'pus, purulent'

flōs, *flōris* 'flower'

honōs, *honōris* 'honor'

Rhotacism

- Proto-Nilotic *s > Western Nilotic r

*sɔd	‘rub’			(Proto-Nilotic)
	>	<i>rɔdɔ</i>	‘rub’	(Dho Alur; Western Nilotic)
	>	<i>suuti</i>	‘rub’	(Päkoot; Southern Nilotic)
*sɔc				(Proto-Nilotic)
	>	<i>rɔc</i>	‘stop up’	(Shilluk)
	>	<i>sɔɔc</i>	‘prop up’	(Päkoot; Southern Nilotic)
*sac	‘err’			(Proto-Nilotic)
	>	<i>rac</i>	‘sin’	(Shilluk)
	>	<i>saac</i>	‘seduce’	(Kipsikiis; Southern Nilotic)
	>	<i>sɛc</i>	‘sin, err’	(Turkana; Eastern Nilotic)

Assibilation

- Proto-Eastern Cushitic

*kebeel- > Somali *sabeel* 'leopard'

- Proto-Finnic *ti > \widehat{tsi} > si:

Fin. *kieltää* 'to deny' → *kielti* ~ *kielsi* 's/he denied'

vesi 'water' vs. *vete-nä* 'as water'

Fin. *sika*, Std. North Est. *sigä*, cf. South Est. *tsiga* 'pig'

Assibilation

- German /t/ > / \widehat{ts} / > /ss/:

essen, dass, aus, Wasser

cf. Eng. *eat, that, out, water*

Dutch *eten, dat, uit, water*

Sw. *äta, det, ut, vatten*

Nor. *ete, det, ut, vann/vatn*

Spirantization or fricativization

- Spanish

Lat. *apothēca* > *bodega* > [bo'ðeɣa]

- Bantu *pi > fi > si (Dimmendaal 2011: 25-26)

Proto-Bantu		Kimbu	Swahili	Luganda	Gloss
*-pígò	>	<i>m-pigo</i>	<i>figo</i>	<i>en-sigo</i>	'kidney'
*-piga	>	<i>ama-piga</i>	<i>figa</i>	<i>es-siga</i>	'firestone'

Gemination

- Proto-Eastern Cushitic > Oromo
- *gatn- 'rainy season' > *gann-a* 'rainy season'
- *luk'm- 'neck' > *lumm-ee* 'neck of ox'

- Col. English:

let me > lemme

give me > gimme

good boy > goobboy

Degemination

Pre-West-Rift	>	Proto-West-Rift	
*follit	>	*folit	'dig'
*xayya	>	*xaya	'he comes'
*hhaddoo	>	*hhadoo	'sticks'
*sliffoo	>	*slifoo	'lips'

Metathesis

Standard Spanish

tarde

bastardo

verdura

cuernada

cordero

sordo

por amor de

Istanbul Judeo-Spanish

['taðre]

[bas'taðro]

[be'ðrura]

['kweðra]

[ko'ðrero]

['soðro]

[para'moðre(ðe)]

‘evening’

‘bastard’

‘verdure’

‘cord’

‘lamb’

‘deaf’

‘for the love of’

Haplology

Eng. *pacificism* > *pacifism* (cf. *misticism*)

Eng. *humblely* > *humbly*

coll. Eng. *library* > *libry* [laibri]

probably > *proly* [proli]

Rhinoglottophilia

- Proto-Indo-Iranian *s normally becomes h in Avestan, but becomes a velar nasal between a/ā and r, i, u or a/ā:

aṅra ‘evil’ < Sanskrit *asra*

aṅhaṭ ‘he may be’ < Sans. *ásat*

vaṅhō ‘better’ < Sans. *vasyas*

Rhinoglottophilia

- Basque nasal aspiration (*n > ñ /V_V)

<i>ahari</i> /a ^ñ ari/	<	*anari	‘ram’
<i>ihi</i> /i ^ñ i/	<	*ini	‘rush, reed’
<i>ihes</i> /i ^ñ es̺/	<	*enes	‘to escape, run away’
<i>sehi</i> /s̺e ^ñ i/	<	*seni	‘servant’ (cf. Mod. B. <i>sein</i> /s̺e̺in/ ‘boy’)

<i>uhure</i> (Std. Bsq. <i>ohore</i>) /u ^ñ ure/	<<	<i>honōre(m)</i>	‘honor’
<i>ahate</i> /a ^ñ ate/	<<	<i>anāte(m)</i>	‘duck’
<i>pühüllü</i> /py ^ñ ylɣ/	<<	<i>faeniculu</i> , *fenu(i)clu	‘fennel’

Stress shifts

- A particular word or set of words:

e.g. Spanish *mió* > *mío*
stressed imperatives in Basque

- A class or group:

Proparoxytones becoming paroxytones in Gascon

- Reinterpreted as counted from the opposite edge:

gizóna ‘the man’, *alhába* ‘daughter’, *etxéa* ‘the house’

+2 > -2

Tonogenesis

Stage I

pá [—]

bá [↗]

‘intrinsic’

Stage II

pá [—̇]

bǎ [↗]

‘extrinsic’

Stage III

pá [—]

pǎ [↗]

‘phonemic’

Tonogenesis

- Afrikaans (Coetzee et al 2014, 2019):

	<i>bak</i> ‘bake’	<i>pak</i> ‘pack’
Traditional (voicing)	[bak]	[pak]
New (f0)	[pàk]	[pák]

Tonogenesis - Vietnamese (Haudricourt 1954)

• 1st century	CV/Final nasal	Final *s > h	Final *T > /ʔ/
	<i>pa</i>	<i>pas > pah</i>	<i>paT > paʔ</i>
	<i>ba</i>	<i>bas > bah</i>	<i>baT > baʔ</i>
• End of the 6th c.	Level	Falling	Rising
	<i>pā</i>	<i>pâ</i>	<i>pǎ</i>
	<i>bā</i>	<i>bâ</i>	<i>bǎ</i>
• 12th century	Level	Falling	Rising
	<i>pa</i> “ngang”	<i>pǎ</i> “sắc”	<i>paǎ</i> “hỏi”
	<i>pà</i> “huyền”	<i>pạ</i> “nặng”	<i>pã</i> “ngã”

Accentogenesis

