**LIQUID METATHESIS**

**EXPERIMENT**

Subjects: Six native listeners of Greek (from Athens, same socio-economic background).

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

(a) Do some syllable position types favour liquid metathesis more than others?

(b) Are laterals and alveolar taps equally prone to metathesis?

(d) Does metathesis operate preferably syllable-externally, and if not, how far does a liquid move?

**ORIGINS OF METATHESIS**

**PRODUCTION**

Changes in gestural phasing between syllables with a preference of in-phase gestures (Proctor 2009: 118) → explains metathesis from complex coda into complex onset

**PERCEPTION**

Conflation due to:

- long-distance resonances in approximants
- the presence of a wharwahhi vehicula in taps and trills (Czaplicki 2013)

**THEORETICAL PHONOLOGY (OT)**

Metathesis achieved by a specific (re)ranking of relevant constraints such as:

- NON-CODA-RIGHT-C (to achieve metathesis of fricatives from a complex coda into a complex onset)
- *COMPLEX-ONSET/Right-Stem or *COMPLEX-ONSET/Middle-Stem (to achieve leftward metathesis from a complex onset into another complex onset)
- LINEARITY (to prevent overgeneralisation of metathesis)
- step-step metathesis (e.g., *caþo > *caþi in Algherese Catalan) predicted by Torres-Tamasi, Pons-Moll, & Cabrera-Callís (2012)

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