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Cluster licensing vs. segment licensing

In all versions of Government Phonology since 1990, there has been an explicit or implicit distinction between two types of lateral forces: those that decide which clusters are well-formed (Constituent Government, Interconstituent Government, Government-Licensing in the 1990 model), and those that produce segmental effects such as vowel-zero alternations, lenition etc. (Proper Government in the 1990 model). The Coda Mirror (Ségéral and Scheer 2001, 2005, Scheer 2004:110) has set out to unify both, that is to build a system where cluster well-formedness and segmental effects are controlled by just two lateral forces, government and licensing. This ambition may have struck beyond the mark. In any event, even in this system a version of Government-Licensing was left whose only purpose is to control branching onsets (the R of a TR cluster must be licensed by its nucleus); Scheer (2004:149) has identified its alien character in the system: Government-Licensing does not produce any segmental effect.
     Cyran's (2003) theory only concerns cluster well-formedness (even though Cyran tries to maintain the unity of cluster-licensing with alternation-relevant lateral forces). If the ambition to boil down the set of lateral relations to just government and licensing is abandoned, the old division of labour could solve the problem that we are left with at the end of this article: Cyran's licensing is only about cluster well-formedness call it cluster-licensing; the lateral forces of the Coda Mirror are only about the segmental expression of syllabic constituents: Ségéral and Scheer's licensing may be called segment-licensing (while Government does not need to be renamed). Lateral actorship of nuclear categories, then, is defined at both levels: whether a constituent can govern and seg-license or not is calculated as before in the Coda Mirror; whether it can clu-license is decided independently of its being governed or not.