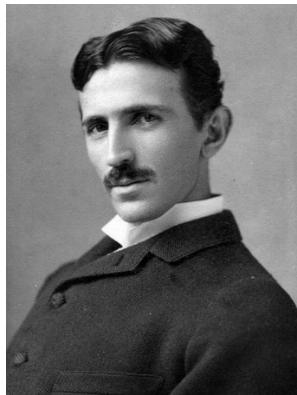


Class 5, 2nd half: How to develop a rule analysis

1. Developing a rule analysis

- In real life, you are probably not starting with transcribed, simplified, arranged data like this
 - You may be starting from a reference grammar, or elicitation notes/recordings (your own or someone else's), or the ability to ask a speaker questions about their language, or your intuitions about your own language
- So, we are cheating quite a bit by starting with a “problem set”!
 - If you want to make things more interesting, take Ling 210A/B, Field Methods
- Data: Adjectives and verbs in “Serbo-Croatian,” a concept that has become politically outdated
 - Now more often called Bosnian-Croatian-Montenegrin-Serbian or BCMS
 - Or Bosnian, Croatian, etc. are now talked about as separate languages
 - “Serbo-Croatian” referred to the main language spoken in what was then Yugoslavia
 - Indo-European, about 16 million speakers
 - English words that may be from BCMS: *cravat* (via French), *dinar*, *paprika*, *hussar* (both via Hungarian), *slivovitz* (via German and Bulgarian), *vampire* (via French and Hungarian)

Nikola Tesla, inventor



Novak Djokovic, tennis player



Marina Abramovich, artist



1

- K&K explain various ways that these data are simplified
- **Non-IPA alert:** the ' mark shows that a vowel is “accented” (falling or rising pitch)
 - We can call these [+accent], just for today
 - This is the aspect of the data is the most simplified
 - We’re told not to worry about accent in the words that don’t have one marked

Our procedure

- We’ll start from the top row, make a guess, then test our guess against the next row
- Whenever we have to make an analytic choice, we’ll keep track of it in a **decision tree**

¹ Wikimedia commons: Tesla_circa_1890.jpeg, Novak_Djokovic_(35488012711).jpg, Marina_Abramović.jpg

Here's our data, from the Kenstowicz & Kisseeberth 1977 textbook, p. 74. I'll give you some extra paper for working on your analysis. The top row and left column are for writing underlying forms.

	<i>masc</i>	<i>fem.</i>	<i>neuter</i>	<i>plural</i>	
	bogat	bogata	bogato	bogati	‘rich’
	mlád	mladá	mladó	mladí	‘young’
	púst	pustá	pustó	pustí	‘empty’
	béo	belá	beló	belí	‘white’
	míó	milá	miló	milí	‘dear’
	zelén	zelená	zelenó	zelení	‘green’
	križan	križana	križano	križani	‘cross’
	jásan	jasná	jasnó	jasní	‘clear’
	ledan	ledna	ledno	ledni	‘frozen’
	dóbar	dobrá	dobró	dobrí	‘kind’
	bodar	bodra	bodro	bodri	‘kind’
	veseo	vesela	veselo	veseli	‘gay’
	ustao	ustala	ustalo	ustali	‘tired’
	múkao	muklá	mukló	muklí	‘hoarse’

	<i>1st person singular present</i>	<i>feminine past</i>	<i>neuter past</i>	<i>masc</i>	
	tepém	teplá	tepló	tépao	‘wander’
	skubém	skublá	skubló	skúba	‘tear’
	tresém	treslá	tresló	trésao	‘shake’
	vezém	vezlá	vezló	vézao	‘lead’
	pletém	plelá	pleló	pléo	‘plait’
	kradém	kralá	kraló	kráo	‘steal’
	metém	melá	meló	méo	‘sweep’
	vedém	velá	veló	véo	‘lead’

References

Kenstowicz, Michael & Charles Kisseeberth. 1977. *Topics in Phonological Theory*. New York: Academic Press.