

## Milroy 1987: Phonology

In chapter seven Milroy discusses important issues related to the analysis of phonological data. In reading this chapter you should focus on the main issues that Milroy identifies and don't worry about understanding the statistical issues.

1. Milroy quotes Labov who looks for "all occurrences of a given variant." What are two problems that Milroy identifies?
2. What is a closed set of variants?
3. Why are the two patterns of /r/ use in Scotland significant?
4. What evidence shows that the pronunciation of /æ/ as /ɛ/ in *bag* in Belfast is recessive?
5. Draw a graph that shows the difference between "consistent use of a median value" and "more variable use of extreme values."
6. What is the difficulty posed by the two prestige norms in Edinburgh?
7. What difficulty is illustrated in tables 6.2 and 6.3?
8. What do tables 6.2 and 6.3 show about the forms used by different social classes?
8. What environments constrain /o/-lengthening in Belfast (Rule 1)?
9. What do tables 6.9 and 6.10 show about the variation in /ɛ/?
10. What is a connected speech process (CSP) and what is its significance?
11. What does table 6.11 show about lexical variables?
12. Why are lexical variables important?
13. How would you record both the lexical item and phonetic value of each token of a variable?
14. Why is it important to separate individual scores from group scores?