

# A mixed-lingual phonological component in polyglot TTS synthesis

Harald Romsdorfer, Beat Pfister and René Beutler

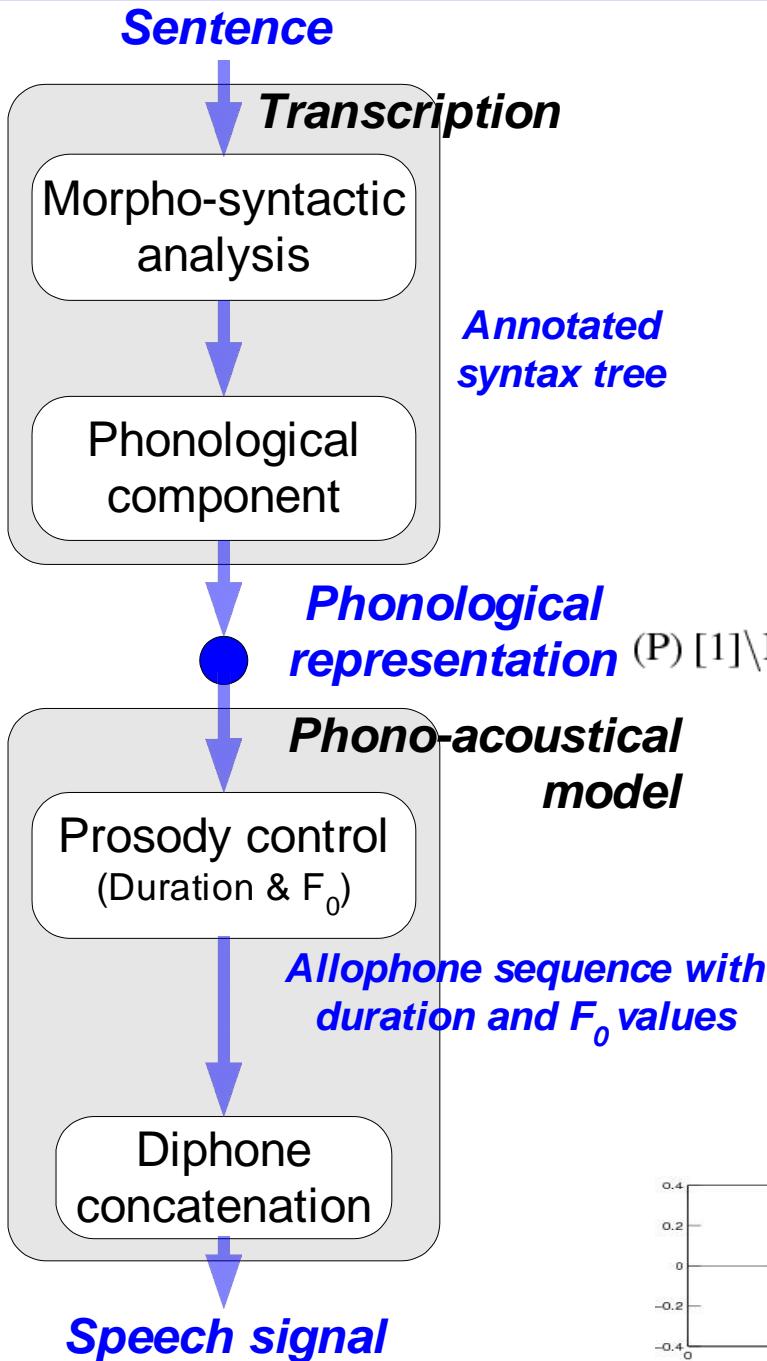
Speech Processing Group  
Computer Engineering and Networks Laboratory  
ETH Zurich, Switzerland

MLMI'04 workshop, Martigny

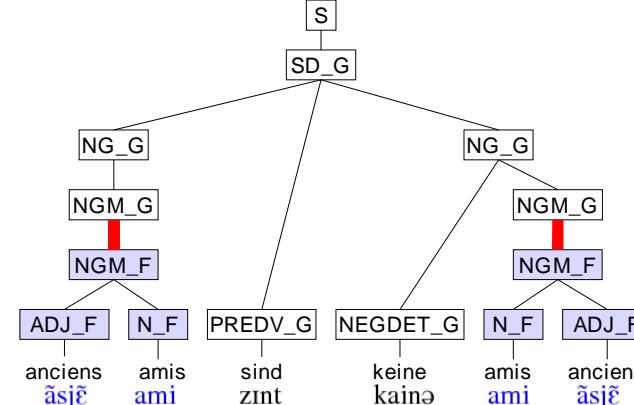
# Outline

- Overview of polyglot TTS system *polySVOX*
- Mixed-lingual phonological component
- Statistical models in prosody control
- Audio examples

# polySVOX overview

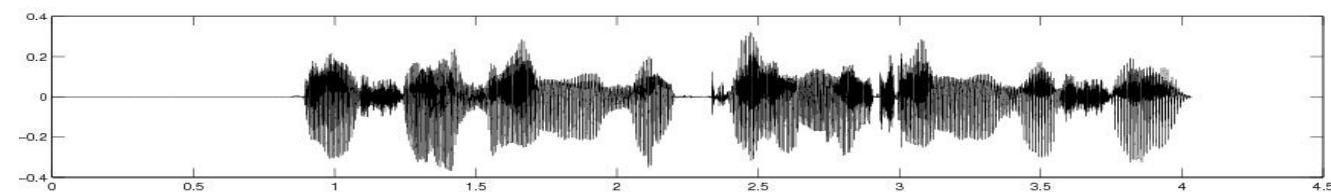


"Anciens Amis sind keine Amis anciens."  
("Ex-friends are no old friends.")

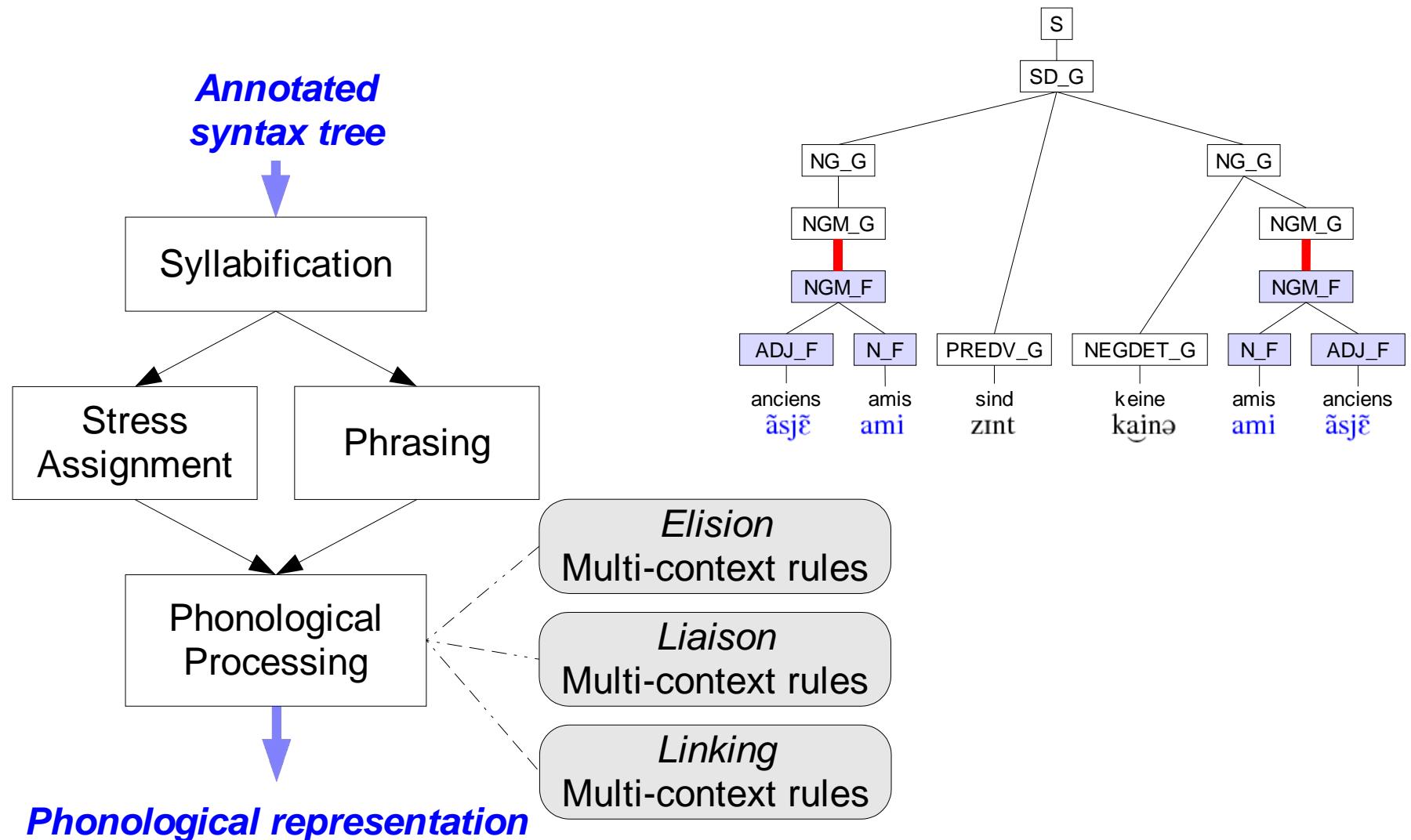


**Phonological representation** (P) [1]\F\? 2̄s-j̄- [3]za-mi- # {2}(T) \G\zint- [2]k̄ai-n̄- [1]\F\?a-mi- [3]z̄s-j̄.

\F\?	61	187	187	188	188	190
\F\~a	110	190	196	203	210	217
\F\s	104	217	221	223	228	243
\F\j	58	243	251	257	257	256
\F\~E	54	256	254	251	239	227
\F\z	83	227	210	201	201	201
	...					



# Mixed-lingual phonological component



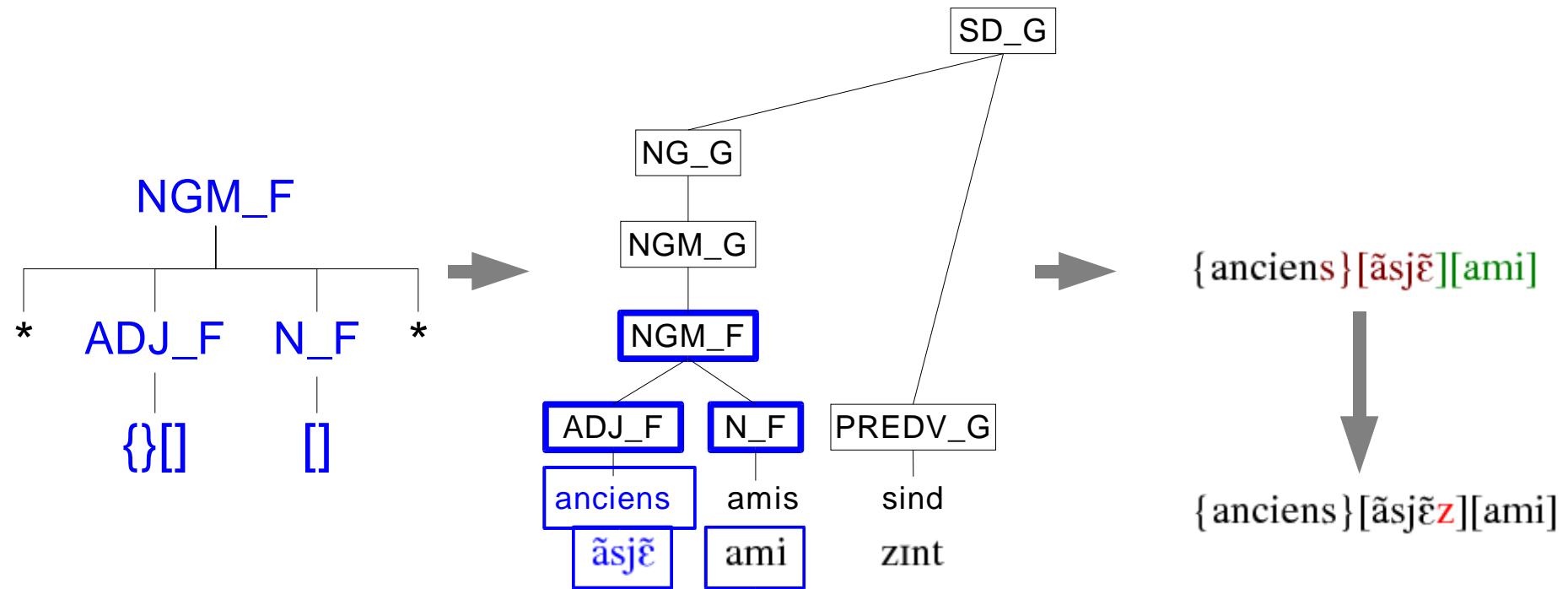
(P) [1]\F\?ãs-jɛ̃- [3]za-mi- #{2}(T) \G\zint- [2]k<sup>h</sup>ai-nə- [1]\F\?a-mi- [3]zãs-jɛ̃.

# Multi-context rules

*subtree pattern* : X / Y <=> L \_ R ;

Example: mandatory liaison within French noun groups between a noun and a preceding adjective:

NGM\_F ( \* ADJ\_F { }[] N\_F [] \* ) : @ / 'z' <=> 's' '}' '[' { %P } %V \_ ']' '[' %V ;



# Multi-context rules: examples

*French mandatory liaison* between a personal pronoun and a conjugated verb or "en" or "y" as a pronoun or adverb:

```
PERS_F { }[] PRONADV_F [] : @ / 'z' <=> 's' '}' '[' { %P } %V _ ']' '[' %V ;
```

"vous en reprenez"  
("you take it away")

(T) \F\vu-z ã- Rã-prã-[1]ne.

"Où partez vous en vacances?"  
("Where do you go on vacation?")

(T) \F\u- par-te- vu- ã- va-[1]kãs.

*English linking [r]* is pronounced only when a word ends graphemically on "r" and the next word starts with a vowel:

```
*_E { }[] *_E [] : @ / 'r' <=> 'r' '}' '[' { %P } _ ']' '[' %V ;
```

"four eggs"

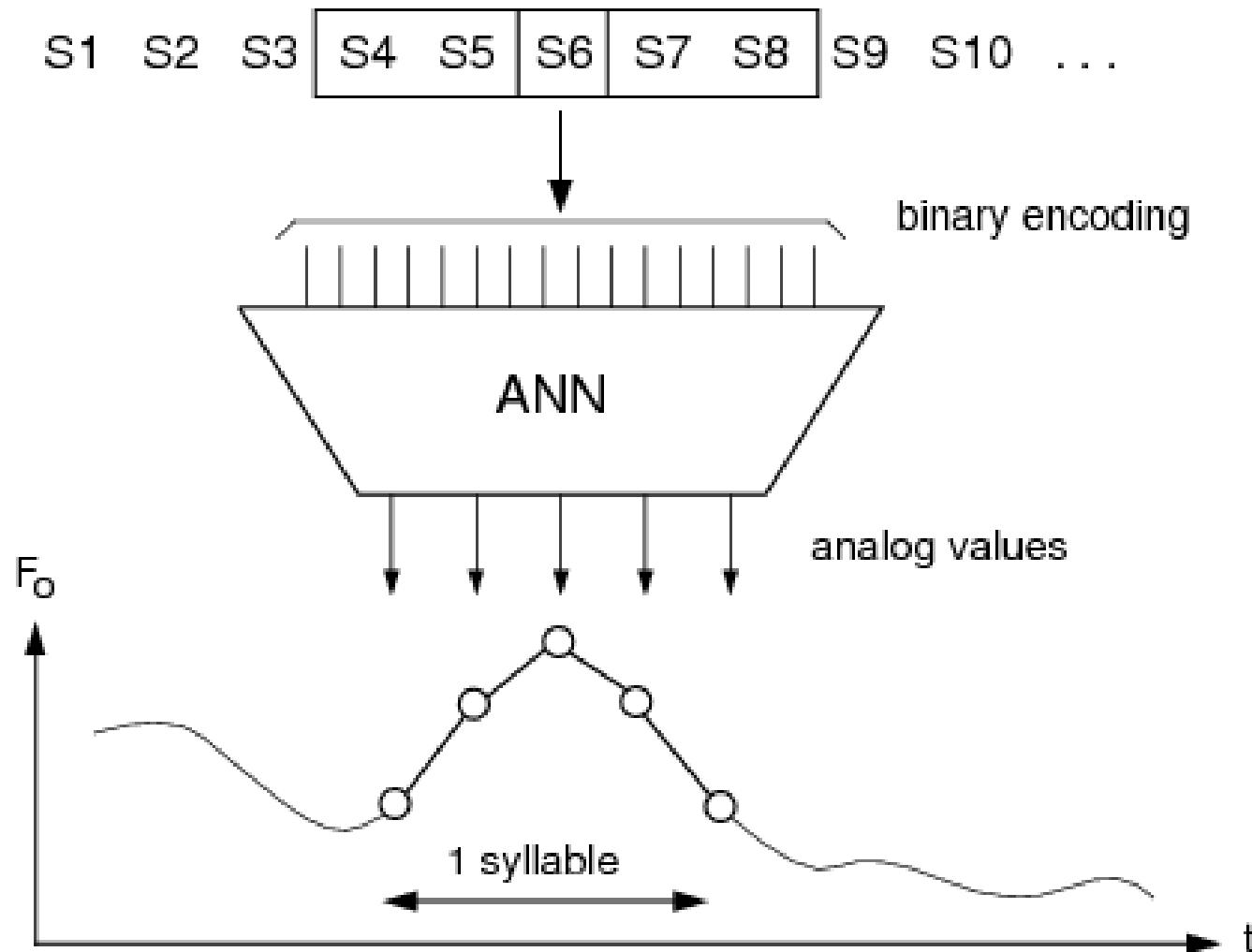
(T) \E\fɔ:r-[1]egz.

"four dogs"

(T) \E\fɔ:r-[1]dɒgz.

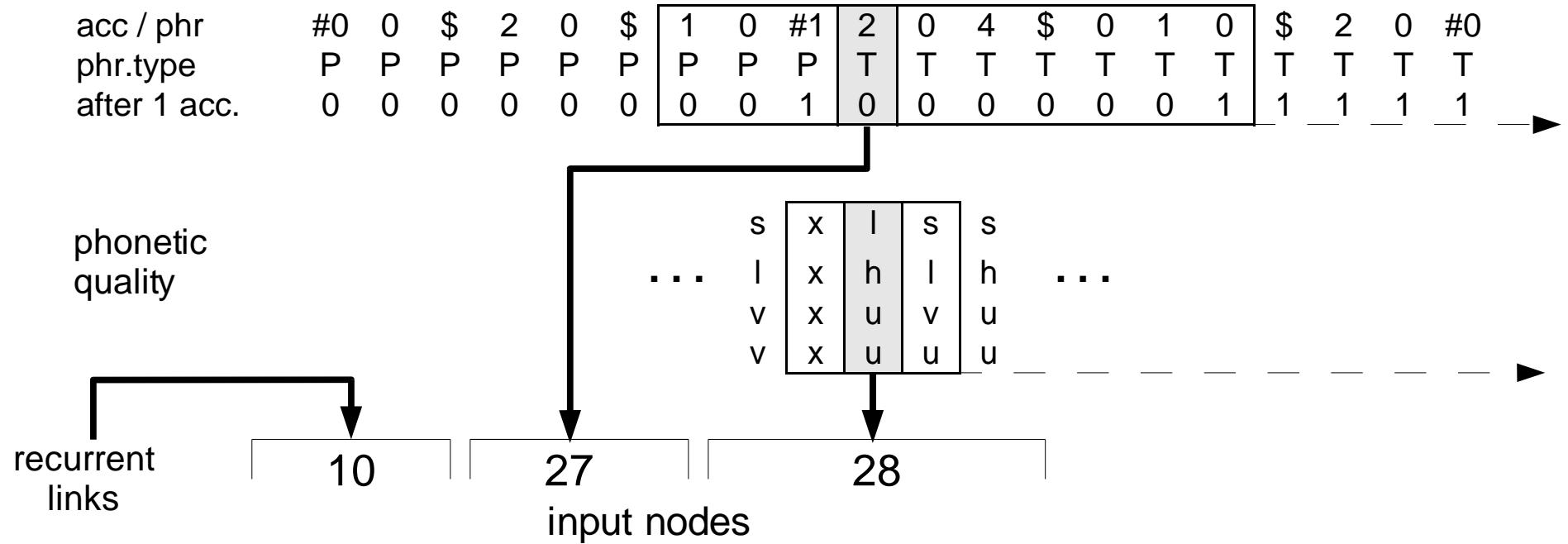
# Prosody control

(P) [1]\F\ ?ăs-jă- [3]za-mi- # {2}(T) \G\zmt- [2]k<sup>h</sup>ai-nə- [1]\F\ ?a-mi- [3]zăs-jă.



# Prosody control

## *Input encoding:*



## *Architecture of neural net:*

- Recurrent neural network with 2 hidden layers
- 65 input nodes
- 10 recurrent links from 2. hidden layer
- 5 output nodes for syllable pitch values

# Audio examples

German

Polyglot

- ■ ■ – Anciens Amis sind keine Amis anciens.  
*(Ex-friends are no old friends.)*
- ■ ■ – Die grossspurige Greatest Nation hat die kulturbewusste Grande Nation verdrängt.  
*(The cocky Greatest Nation has displaced the culture-conscious Grande Nation.)*
- ■ ■ – Ein Cheminéeofen ist kein Must, sondern bloss nice to have.  
*(A fireplace is not a must, but just nice to have.)*
- ■ ■ – Lifestyle outlet sich oft als niveaulose Eventkultur.  
*(Lifestyle often emerge as dull event culture.)*
- ■ ■ – Mein Cousin surft im World Wide Web.  
*(My cousin surfs the world wide web.)*