We seek to provide a more satisfactory analysis of Harari long-distance VC interactions in languages like Harari. Harari does not display these correspondences. Thus, long-distance VC interactions in languages like Harari also have Palatalization of multiple coronal obstruents is palatalization, and also strengthen the idea that all agreement relationships are limited by similarity-based correspondence.

Long-Distance Palatalization (LDP) in Harari

In Harari (Ethio-Semitic), the 2nd person feminine singular suffix -i triggers palatalization of coronal obstruents and sonorants in the stem. This is easiest to see with imperatives.

   a. libhfj '-i "dress!"
   b. kitkj kitkj-"i "pay!"
   c. kitkkitkj-"i "write!"
   d. hinak hipak-"i-1 "strange!"
   e. sïxar fixar-"i-1 "be drunk!"
   f. a-t-a-bargi a-t-a-bargi-1 "don't start!"

When a coronal sonorant is stem-final and a coronal obstruent appears earlier in the stem, both get palatalized (Rose 2004, (7)).

   g. xïdïn xïdïn-1-1 "cover!"
   h. giïld giïld-1-1 "kill!"

Palatalization of multiple coronal obstruents is optional (Rose 2004, (12)).

   a. bitas bitas-1-1-1 "rip!"
   b. xïdïbï xïdïbï-1 "insult!"
   c. xïdïbï xïdïbï-1-1 "insult!"

Spreading, Docking, and Blocking

Before considering an analysis involving spreading and floating features, some further data must be introduced.

Harari also has a local palatalization process, seen in words with agentive -i, hospitable to a spreading analysis.

Root Agentive

   a. ëv/hrs harfj-1-1 "one who plays!"
   b. ëv/gdl gadj-1-1 "one who kills!"
   c. ëv/dlg dalgï-1-1 ("dalgï")-1-1 "one who works!"

In addition, while Rose argues that Harari LDP does not display blocking effects, these could simply be difficult to detect due to rampant possibility of multiple palatalization. Consider the following data, which is amenable to a floating feature analysis.

Preferred Dispreferred

   a. a-t-bïr-1 a-t-bïr-1-1 "don't fly!"
   b. a-t-binj k-t-binj-1-1 "don't be soaked!"

If underlying /f/ gets vacuously palatalized, we understand the acceptability of [a-\(\text{+pal}\)-f-j] as following from the same mechanism that allows optional multiple palatalization of coronal obstruents, which is also dispreferred for many speakers.

References