

*AUTOSEGMENTAL TONAL RULES AND REPRESENTATIONS*

Autosegmental rules involving tone are expressed through representation instead of through a linear rule of the format  $A \rightarrow B / C \_ D$ .

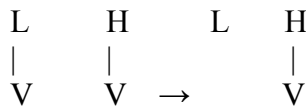
*Spreading* (tone assimilation) is shown with a dotted line connecting the tone that is spreading to the tone bearing unit (TBU) that is receiving the tone:

Spread L right:

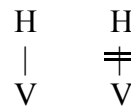


*Deletion* of the TBUs is shown by loss of the association line. Delinking of the association line is also possible without loss of the TBU. Delinking is shown with a double slash through the association line. This can sometimes occur as a result of spreading another tone to the TBU, which can dislodge the tone that is already linked.

Delete TBU

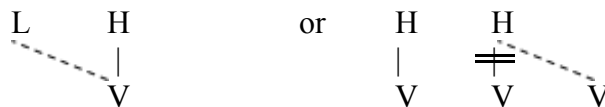


Delink H tone:



A delinked tone or deassociated tone that is not associated to any other TBU is considered to be floating, but it can reassociate to a following/preceding TBU. Reassociation is shown with a dotted line.

Reassociation:

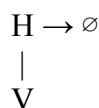


*Floating tones* are represented on the tone tier with no linking to a TBU.

A floating L tone which does not reassociate can have an effect on a following H tone by lowering it with respect to a preceding H tone. This is referred to as *downstep* and is indicated with an arrow <sup>↓</sup> before the second H (we did not cover this in the lectures, but it is an important part of many African tone systems)

*Deletion* of tone is also possible, in which case the vowel that loses tone will get a default tone, as the tone has been deleted rather than delinked. *Default tone* rules are also used when no spreading of tone takes place, and at the end of the derivation a TBU needs to be provided with a pitch of some kind. In systems with H and L tones, this is usually L tone.

Tone Deletion



Default L

