

## **Some Issues of Syllable Phonology with a focus on Korean and English**

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This talk will first review the basics of syllable structure, do a quick review of the moraic representation of the syllable, and briefly survey systems of syllable weight focusing on coda consonants. We then discuss the sonority hierarchy and the notion of preferred syllable contact whereby languages often have a preference to avoid rising sonority sequences over a syllable boundary. This will be illustrated with Korean, a language where much of its phonological alternations take place in order to avoid sequences of rising sonority over a syllable boundary. The last part of the talk focuses on two contradictory processes in English: y-hypocoristics as in *Barby* for the personal name *Barbara* and schwa syncope as in [fæmli] for ‘family’, where the former favors falling sonority over a syllable boundary and the latter favors rising sonority.