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Pharyngealisation; 2.4. Palestinian Pharyngealisation Harmony; 2.4.1 Harmony Under Adjacency to a Postvelar
2.4.2 Theoretical Account: Part I; 2.4.3. Non-local Harmony; 2.4.4 Theoretical Account: Part II; 2.4.5 Opaque Stem-final Vowels and Long Vowels; 2.4.6 Theoretical Account: Part III; 2.5. Palestinian Uvularisation Harmony; 2.5.1 Harmony with an Emphatic; 2.5.2 Theoretical Account: Part I; 2.5.3 Opaque Post-alveolar Obstruents; 2.5.4 Theoretical Account: Part II; 2.5.5 Transparent Non-low Vowels; 2.5.6 Theoretical Account: Part III; 2.5.7 Uvularisation Harmony in Other Palestinian Dialects; 2.6. Summary and a Final Issue; CHAPTER 3: POSTVELAR HARMONY IN ST'AT'IMCETS SALISH
3.1. The Language and the Data; 3.2. Phonemic Inventory; 3.2.1 Consonantal Inventory; 3.2.2 Vocalic Inventory; 3.3. Preliminary Issues; 3.3.1 Underlying Pharyngealisation, Underlying Uvularisation; 3.3.2 The Derivation of the St 'at'imcets Underlying Postvelar Inventory; 3.4. St'at'imcets Pharyngealisation Harmony; 3.4.1 Pharyngealisation under Adjacency to a Postvelar; 3.4.2 Theoretical Account; 3.5. St'at'imcets Uvularisation Harmony; 3.5.1 Harmony with an Emphatic; 3.5.2 Theoretical Account: Part I; 3.5.3 Neutral High Vowels; 3.5.4 Theoretical Account: Part II; 3.5.5 'Transparent' Laryngeals
3.5.6 Theoretical Account: Part III; 3.6. Summary; CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION; 4.1. Summary; 4.2. A Residual Issue; References; Appendix I. Abbreviations; Appendix II: Palestinian Carrier Forms For Vowel Tokens; Appendix III: Salish Language Classification; Appendix IV: St'at'imcets Carrier Forms For Vowel Tokens; Appendix V: St'at'imcets Word List; Name Index; Other Language/Language Family Index; Subject Index

Sommario/riassunto

This book examines the formal bases of postvelar harmony and its crosslinguistic variation. It is of interest especially to phonologists concerned with segmental harmony and its explanation within Optimality Theory. Postvelar harmony in two unrelated languages, Palestinian Arabic and St'at'imcets Salish, is examined in detail. The result is the first comprehensive clarification of postvelar phonology for either language. Two harmonies are distinguished: uvularisation harmony ('emphasis spread') and pharyngealisation (tongue-root-retraction) harmony. The distinction between these two in th
