

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910464179003321
Autore	Schramm Mareile
Titolo	The emergence of Creole syllable structure : a cross-linguistic study / / Mareile Schramm
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Munich] : , : De Gruyter, , [2015] ©2015
ISBN	3-11-039530-4 3-11-033956-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (336 p.)
Collana	Linguistische arbeiten / edited by Klaus von Heusinger, Gereon Muller, Ingo Plag, Beatrice Primus, Elisabeth Stark and Richard Wiese ; ; volume 554
Classificazione	EE 1660
Disciplina	417/.22
Soggetti	Creole dialects - Caribbean Area Grammar, Comparative and general - Syllable Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- Abbreviations and notational conventions -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Creole genesis and syllable structure -- 3. Data and Methodology -- 4. Syllable structure and phonotactic restructuring in the Dutch-based creoles -- 5. Syllable structure and phonotactic restructuring in the English-based creoles -- 6. Syllable structure and phonotactic restructuring in the French-based creoles -- 7. Syllable structure in the six creoles: Similarities and differences -- 8. Explaining creole phonotactic restructuring -- 9. Creole syllable structure: A final assessment -- Bibliography
Sommario/riassunto	This book investigates syllable structure and phonotactic restructuring in six Caribbean creoles with Dutch, English and French as main lexifier languages. The earliest reliable data available for each creole are analysed statistically to determine which lexifier structures are retained in the creole, which ones undergo restructuring (and at which rates) and which restructuring mechanisms are preferred in case of repair. The description of creole structures is kept as theory-neutral as possible to make the analysis meaningful to researchers working in

different theoretical frameworks. The investigation reveals that, although some structures are more commonly permitted than others, there is considerable cross-creole variation, especially with respect to word-final structures. This variation concerns both permissible structures and the preferred choice among different repair strategies. It is shown that the vast majority of the observed patterns can receive a plausible explanation if we assume that L1 transfer, substrate levelling and (partial) L2 acquisition feature prominently among the mechanisms in creolisation. The findings thus provide support for recent SLA approaches to the emergence of creole phonology (Plag 2009, Uffmann 2009).

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