3.0. GENERAL

One of the conspicuous features of Telangui phonology, in comparison with modern Telugu, is its relatively small number of phonemes. Vowel phonemes are five in number.

Footnote: 1. Modern Telugu has the following phonemes.

Vowels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRONT</th>
<th>NON FRONT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i i</td>
<td>u u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e e</td>
<td>o o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>a a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consonants:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vel</th>
<th>pal</th>
<th>Retro</th>
<th>Alv</th>
<th>Dint</th>
<th>Lab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stop vl</td>
<td>k</td>
<td>c</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop vl asp.kh</td>
<td>ch</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>th</td>
<td>ph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop vd</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop vd asp.gh</td>
<td>jh</td>
<td>ch</td>
<td>ch</td>
<td>bh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasal</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi Vowel</td>
<td>y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>v</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flap</td>
<td></td>
<td>r</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral</td>
<td>l</td>
<td>l</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirant</td>
<td>h</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s f</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Korada Mahadeva Sastri, Historical Grammar of Telugu.
Sri Venkateswara University, 1969, P.73.
and each of them has its counterpart with length. The Phoneme of length is also found with all the consonants in the dialect except /n/.

Among consonants, the absence of aspirated counterparts of stops and affricates is a major difference from Modern Telugu. The greater frequency of pre-consonant nasals with their large number of allophones, along with the nasalization of the preceding vowels, makes the dialect sound to modern Telugu speakers, as if it has too much of 'nasality' in that position.

There is free variation between /t/, /d/ and /t/, /d/ in Telangi. Whereas in Modern Telugu only /t/, /d/, are heard.

Phonemes of Telangi are strikingly close to those of old Telugu (200 B.C. to 1000 A.D). Here also the number of phonemes

---

Foot notes:

2. Old Telugu has the following phonemes in the native element.

VOWELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FRONT</th>
<th>NON-FRONT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vowel</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vowel</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vowel</td>
<td>a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONSONANTS:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>V1 stop</td>
<td>k</td>
<td>c</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>p</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vd stop</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>j</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasal</td>
<td>y</td>
<td></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Vl</td>
<td></td>
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<td>v</td>
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<td>Flap</td>
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<td>Trill</td>
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<td>Lateral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirant</td>
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<td>s</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ibid. p. 37
old Telugu exceeds that of Telangâ in respect of liquids. The retroflex nasal has phonemic status in old and Modern Telugu whereas it is only allophonic in Telangâ. Conversely, the velar nasal has developed into a phoneme in Telangâ, which is only an allophone in old and Modern Telugu.

Because of the availability of only a few words like *ka:nka* 'gift', *Ka:ko* 'therefore' and *Kinka* 'anger', in the dialect (which are *ka:nuka* *Ka:ku* and *Kinku* in the literary style of standard Telugu), the phoneme /ń/ has to be set up as /ń/ does occur before velar consonants quite frequently. Examples:

/ka:nka/ 'hot'

/inka/ 'yet'

/n/ could have otherwise been treated as an allophone of /ń/ because its occurrence is restricted to the above said position. This phoneme has, thus, extremely limited distribution. Old and Modern Telugu, however, do not have /ń/

3.1. LIST OF PHONEMES

VOWELS

/ i u

 e o

 a /

CONSONANTS

/ p t t c k

 b d d j g

 m n l n

 r s

 w y /

length /:/

Juncture /+/
3.2 CONTRASTIVE PAIRS

Contrasts between comparable phonemes are given below. Wherever available, minimal or sub-minimal pairs are given, and where they are not available, positional contrasts are shown.

Note: - / ɔ / is rare in initial position and is not available at all in final position in the present data.

I / i / : / e /

INITIAL

/ indu / 'here'
/ endu / 'where'
/ ip:u.indu/ 'now'
/ ep:u.indu/ 'when'

MEDIAL

/ pil:i/ 'cat'
/ pel:i/ 'marriage'
/ ni:su/ 'greed'
/ ne:su/ 'weave'

FINAL

/ Guc:i/ 'having pierced'
/ Guc:e/ 'wrist'
/ mut:i/ 'having touched'
/ mut:e / 'mouth' 'beak'
/i/ : /a/

INITIAL

/ idi / 'this'
/ adi / 'that'
/ indu / 'here'
/ andu / 'there'

MEDIAL

/pindi/ 'flour'
/pandi/ 'bear'
/pil:i/ 'cat'
/palu/ 'error'

Final

/am:i/ 'having sold'
/am:a/ 'father's mother'
/gadi:i/ 'grass'
/gada/ 'clod'
/i/ : /u/

INITIAL

/irku/ 'narrow'
/urku/ 'run'
/icu/ 'gave'
/ucu/ 'tangle'

MEDIAL

/pil:i/ 'cat'
/puli/ 'tiger'
/ciku/ 'tangle! knot'
/cuk:a/ 'star'
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INITIAL</th>
<th>MEDIAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ kumi/</td>
<td>/ kidki/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ Komi/</td>
<td>/ kodki/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ ag:i/</td>
<td>/ kinka/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ hag:u/</td>
<td>/ Kona/</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>/ i /</th>
<th>/ e /</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ il:u/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ odalu/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ w:odalu/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ ip:a/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ mohua/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ wop:u/</td>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<th>/ a /</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>/ ag:i/</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ fire/</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ ep:undu/</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<th>/ s /</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ pel:i/</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ marriage/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pal:u/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ error/</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ telpu/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vowel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
/ a / : / u /

INITIAL

/ agii /  'fire'
/ ugi: /  'roast'
/ ancu /  'edge'
/ uncu /  'keep'

MEDIAL

/ Kadpu /  'stomach'
/ Kudpu /  'feast'
/ kap:a /  'frog'
/ kup:a /  'heap'

FINAL

/ go:nda /  'staircase'
/ go:ndu /  'request'

/ a / : / o /

INITIAL

/ olka /  'mild anger'
/ olka /  'spill'

MEDIAL

/ ka:gu /  'wash'
/ kodku /  'son'

/ u / : / o /

INITIAL

/ ungu /  'be'
/ olka /  'spill'

MEDIAL

/ muk:u /  'nose'
/ vow to God'
II. LENGTH IN VOWELS.

Long vowels are not available in final position, hence the contrasts between long and short vowels in that position cannot be shown.

/ i / : / iː /

**INITIAL**

/ inka / ' yet '
/ inka / ' feather '
/ ila / ' world '
/ iːla / ' whistle '

**MEDIAL**

/ pilːa / ' girl '
/ pilːa / ' yellow '
/ pinːa / ' small '
/ pilːnaːndu / ' boy '

/ e / : / eː /

**INITIAL**

/ ersu / ' fear '
/ eːrsu / ' select '
/ elpʊ/ n/ welpʊ / ' broad '
/ elpʊ/ n/ welpʊ / ' deity '

**MEDIAL**

/ nela / ' month '
/ nela / ' floor '
/ cerwu / ' tank '
/ ceːru / ' near '
/ a / : / a: / 

INITIAL
/ andu /  'there'
/ a:ndadi / 'woman'
/ adgu /  'ask'
/ a:ndu /  'play'

MEDIAL
/ nalka /  'dust particle'
/ na:lka /  'tongue'
/ palu /  'error'
/ palu /  'milk'

/ u / : / u: / 

INITIAL
/ undu /  'be'
/ u:ndu /  'blow'
/ urki /  'having run'
/ U:riki /  'to village'

MEDIAL
/ curku /  'sprain' 'shooting pain'
/ cu:li /  'first issue'
/ muncu /  'dip'
/ muncu /  'breath'

/ o / : / o: / 

INITIAL
/ o: / is not available in initial position in the present
data, and / o / also is available there only in four words, viz, / okati / 'one', / olka / 'spill' / odalu / 'body' and / olpu / 'bark of a tree'. In medial position, however, both the vowels occur quite frequently.

MEDIAL

/ to:tie / 'lip'
/ to:inta / 'garden, grove'
/ tolka / 'wave'
/ to:lkə / 'skin of a fruit'

III. CONSONANTS.

Consonants are generally not available in final position. But sometimes an item loses its final vowel and length is added to the vowel of the previous syllable, if it is not already long, thus making the word consonant ending. We do not find a single word with a final consonant, which does not have its counterpart with final vowel. On the other hand, in Modern Telugu, we do not come across words with final consonants at all. When borrowed words from Sanskrit, English and Hindi are made to rhyme with the native words in this respect.

Contrasts in final consonants are not given below, as all of them can be explained in terms of their medial occurrence. The following examples will make the above statement clear:

si:nketi / sɪnkeɪti / 'dark'
pi:nawa:ndu / pɪnawaːndu / 'boy'
lag:am / ˈlɑːɡəm / 'loom'
-pə pak:ən / pəkən / 'beside'
pagalu / pagəl / 'noon'
waːru / wər / 'they'
CONTRASTS

/ p / : / b /  

INITIAL

/ po:ru/   'fight'
/ bo:ru/    'island'
   / po:angu/ 'ear ring'
   / bongu/  'bamboo'

MEDIAL

/ dup:i/  'deer'
/ dub:u/   'dust'
   / gup:a/ 'forest'
   / deb:a/ 'hurt'

/ t / : / d /  

INITIAL

/ tup:a/  'nest'
/ dub:u/   'dust'
   / ta:nta/ 'grand father'
   / danda/  'garland'
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/tekju/ 'pride'</td>
<td>/to:nta/ 'garden'</td>
<td>/kc:sa/ 'under'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/dek:a/ 'hoof'</td>
<td>/toda/ 'thigh'</td>
<td>/gainju/ 'bangle'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ci:re/ 'dress'</td>
<td>/ku:nta/ 'lame'</td>
<td>/buc:ayi/ 'fondling word for child'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/jatu/ 'slip'</td>
<td>/ku:ndu/ 'food'</td>
<td>/buji:weyi/ 'fondling word for a calf'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/-ci:mu/- 'splinter'</td>
<td>/ja:smuna/ 'suddenly'</td>
<td>/-ci:mu/- 'splinter'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/ k / : / g /  

INITIAL
/ koːnˈduː / 'peak'
/ goːnˈduː / 'request'
/ kændu / 'child'
/ gændu / 'male of animals'

MEDIAL
/ bɒnˈkuː / 'falsehood'
/ bɒnɡu / 'bamboo'
/ næкˈsuː / 'hide'
/ nɑɡˈsuː / 'laughter'

/ t / : / t /  

INITIAL
/ teˈduː / 'oar'
/ teˈkjuː / 'pride'
/ toːnˈtaː / 'grow'
/ toːmpɪ ɪ / 'cap'

MEDIAL
/ kætˈiː / 'knife'
/ kʊtˈsuː / 'ache'
/ pʊnta / 'flower'
/ toːnˈtaː / 'garden'

/ d / : / ð /  

INITIAL
/ daˈdɪ / 'wall'
/ dʊkˈtuːru / 'mouse'
/ dʊŋɡə / 'thief'
/ dʊŋɡə / 'boat'
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Medial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ indu /</td>
<td>' here '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ indiga /</td>
<td>' toddy '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ gudlu /</td>
<td>' fit blow '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ gudlu /</td>
<td>' egg '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ c / : / k /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ cuk:a /</td>
<td>' star '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ kuk:a /</td>
<td>' dog '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ cilwa /</td>
<td>' small branch ' ' twig'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ korwa /</td>
<td>' hillman '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ duk:iu /</td>
<td>' comb '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ duk:iuru /</td>
<td>' blind mouse '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pak:na /</td>
<td>' beside '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pacika /</td>
<td>' paiture '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ j / : / g /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ jainga /</td>
<td>' plzu '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ gai:ju /</td>
<td>' bongle '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ jigi /</td>
<td>' shining '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ cik:u /</td>
<td>' tangle '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ gai:ju /</td>
<td>' pull '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ wat:ngu /</td>
<td>' river '</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INITIAL</td>
<td>MEDIAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ m / : / n /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ netu:u /  'hill'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ net:uru /  'blood'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ mog:a /  'bud'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ nag:u /  'laughter'</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>/ n / : / n /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ nina /  'limon'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ nin:a /  'yesterday'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ kam:u /  'invade'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ kan:u /  'eye'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ n / : / l /</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ na:nge:li /  'plough'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ jod:a /  'arrow'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pina /  'small'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pil:a /  'girl'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/ l / : / r /

INITIAL

/ lompatya / ' inside '  
/ rompi / ' marsh '  

MEDIAL

/ guita / ' basket '  
/ gu:amu / ' horse '  


/ r / : / s /  

**INITIAL**  
/ ra:ti / "stone"  
/ ya:ya / "way"  

**MEDIAL**  
/ wi:ru / a / u:ru / "village"  
/ wi:r̩u / a / u:r̩u / "flood"  

/ w / : / y /  

**INITIAL**  
/ wi:mu / "sky"  
/ yi:pu / a / impu / "beauty"  
/ we:mu / "margosa"  
/ yendik:u / a / endik:u / "whether"  

**MEDIAL**  
/ ba:wa / "wife's brother"  
/ i:wu / "give"  
/ po:ngiy:u / "let go"  
/ bayamu / "far"  

**IV LENGTH IN CONSONANTS:**

Length in consonants is not available in initial and final positions, and hence the contrasts are shown only in medial position. / h / has no phonemic length. The examples given below indicate that short consonant contrasts with its lengthened counterpart and also a long consonant is in contrast
contrast with cluster having its short counterpart as the second member.

```plaintext
// p / : / p: /
// tu:mpu / 'arrow'
// tup:a / 'nest'
// t / : / t: x/
// wanta /'Misery'
// tit:ulu / 'water'
// t / : / t:
// kate:ri / 'knife'
// to:e / 'lip'
// e / : / e:
// manci / 'good'
// pac:i / 'raw'
// k / : / k:
// du:nku / 'jimp'
// duk:uru / 'mouse'
// b / : / b:
// e:mbadi / 'fifty'
// deb:adi / 'seventy'
// d / : / d:
// pe:nda / 'poor'
// ped:i:a / 'chief'
// d / d:
// kandwa / narrow path'
// ad:ina / 'that which is uttered'
```
/ j / ɔ / j: /

/ girmjbuslā /  'heel'
/ buj:ai /  'fondling word for a calf'

/ g / ː / g:/

/ magādū /  'husband 8
/ mog:li /  'cloud'

/ m / ː / mː /

/ kompu /  'beauty'
/ kamzi /  'wire'

/ n / ː / nː /

/ wim /  'hear'
/ wintu /  'sky'

/ l / ː / lː /

/ kodā /  'stick'
/ kol:ā /  'plenty'

/ r / ː / rː /

/ pe:rmi /  'greatness'
/ par:ā /  'a piece of land'

/ w / ː / wː /

/ korawadi /  'hill woman'
/ aw:s/ /  'mother'

/ y / ː / yː /

/ ka:ya /  'fruit'
/ kay:amu /  'battle'
Juncture : its absence

/ cuka + ina:di / 8 star is coming  
/ cuka + nga / 'vulture'  
/ kuk: a ku:ndu / 'dog food'  
/ kuk:adumu / 'leopard'  
/ pa:lu / pa:lu pet:u / 'put milk'  
/ pa:pet:u / 'distribute'  
/ endi bok:s / crab hole  
/ endi ku: / whether  
/ pac:a gadi / green grass  
/ maragadi / 'goose'

The following minimal pairs show the contrasts in the placement of juncture.

/ wain + inta + nundenu / he was in the house  
/ wain + inta + nundenu / (he) was in his (another one's house)  
/ wain + intiki + po:ngiyyu / 'let him go to (his) house'  
/ wainintiki + po:ngiyyu / 'let him, her, them go to his house'  
/ wainintiki + po:ng + iy:u / 'give aearing at his house'
3.3 POSITIONS OF PHONEMES

VOWELS:

All the vowels occur in the medial position. /i e a u/ occur in all the positions, although their occurrence in the initial position is less frequent than in the medial position. /o/ does not occur in the final position. The long counterparts of /i, e, a, u/ appear in the initial position less frequently and do not appear at all in the final position. When /i e a u/ and their lengthened counterparts with the exception /o/ appear in the initial position, they have a tendency to be preceded by /y/ or /w/ as the case may be. Thus /i i:/ and /e e:/ in the initial position alternate freely with /yi yi:/ and /ye ye:/.

Similarly, /u u:/ and /o/ have free variation with /wu wu:/ and /wo/.

Following are the examples of free variation between an initial vowel and the vowel preceded by /y/ or /w/:

/iruku/ 'narrow' alternates with /yiruku/
/inka/ 'feather' " " /yu:inka/
/egi/ 'fly' " " /yegi/
/onga/ 'elephant' " " /yonga/
/urki/ 'having run' " " /wurki/
/wurki/ 'to village' " " /wurki/
/okati/ 'one' " " /wokati/
**CONSONANTS:**

All the consonants occur in the initial and medial positions, except /n/ which occurs only medially. Sometimes a consonant appears in the final position, but it alternates freely with the consonant plus a final vowel.\(^1\) For example:

/ sǐːnkənt / 'dark' has free variation with / sǐṅkati /
/ pǐːnawai:`nd / 'boy' / pǐːnawai:`ndu /
/ paksi:`n / 'beside' / paksi:`na /
/ kəːl / 'beg' / kalu /

Almost all the consonants can occur before or after at least one other consonant to form clusters. The predominant tendency is to form clusters of homorganic consonants. /w/ does not become the first member of a cluster and /y/ does not participate in cluster formation. Long consonants have not been treated here as clusters, as has already been made clear. They do not occur by the side of another consonant.

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1. In standard Telugu also, consonants do not generally appear in the final position. But where they occur, they are not in free variation with the final consonant plus a vowel.
3.4. **ALLOCOPHONICS OF VOWELS**

The vowel phonemes and the allophones of each of them with their brief description are given below. Then, the mention of the positions of their occurrence is followed by examples which are given in phonemic transcription. These examples are followed by the English glosses and phonetic transcription.

Of the three allophones of each of the vowel phonemes, the first one is the 'norm' and it occurs with length. The second is a centralized vowel, which occurs before a consonant or a vowel (in the case of /a/ only). The third occurs only in final position.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phoneme</th>
<th>Allophone</th>
<th>Description, occurrence and ex:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/i/</td>
<td>[i]</td>
<td>Front unrounded nearly close vowel. Occurs with length in initial and medial positions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/i:la/ 'whistle' [i:la] ;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/p:i:nawa:n/ 'boy' [pi:nawa:n] d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ɪ]</td>
<td>Front centralized vowel midway between close and half-close position. Occurs without length in initial or medial positions, when the following phoneme is a consonant:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/ɪlɑ/ 'world' [ɪlɑ] ;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/pil:ɑ/ 'girl' [pi:l:ɑ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td></td>
<td>Front unrounded vowel slightly opener than i. Occurs without length always in final position.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/pi:l:ɪ/ 'cat' [pi:l:ɪ]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| /e/ | [ə] | Front unrounded half-close vowel. Occurs with length in initial and medial positions: /əlpu/ /ˈweɪlpu/ 'doity' əlpu əlpu əlpu

| /æ/ | [æ] | Front centralized unrounded half-close vowel. Occurs without length in initial and medial positions, when the following phoneme is a consonant: /ælpu/ /ˈweɪlpu/ 'wide' əlpu əlpu əlpu

| /ɛ/ | [ɛ] | Front unrounded half-close vowel slightly open than ə and ə. Occurs without length in the final position. /ˈtɔtɪə/ 'lɪp' totɪə

| /a/ | [a] | Central unrounded open vowel. Occurs with length in the initial and medial positions: /ɑːnəu/ 'play' ɑːnəu ɑːnəu /nɑːlka/ 'tongue' nɑːlka

| /ə/ | [ə] | Central, centralized unrounded midway between open and half-open vowel. Occurs without length in the initial or medial positions, when the following phoneme is a consonant.
| /u/ | Back rounded nearly close vowel. Occurs with length in initial and medial positions: |

| /u/ | Back centralized half-close vowel midway between close and half-close positions. Occurs without length in initial and medial positions, when the following phoneme is a consonant / Undu / ' be ' [ undU ] |

| /o/ | Back centralized rounded half-close vowel. Occurs with length only in medial position: |
Back centralized rounded half-close vowel. Occurs without length rarely in initial position and generally in medial position.

/ olka / 'spill' [olkA] ;
/ tolka / 'wave' [ tolkA] 

NOTE: Back rounded half-close vowel slightly opener than \( \theta \) and \( \phi \) which is expected to occur in the final position parallel to \( \Theta \) above is not available in the present data.

The articulatory positions of the allophones of Telangi vowels can be shown in the following way.
The allophones of vowels with regard to the positions of occurrence can be summarized as in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>INITIAL</th>
<th></th>
<th>MEDIAL</th>
<th></th>
<th>FINAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>with /i/</td>
<td>without /i/</td>
<td>with /i/</td>
<td>without /i/</td>
<td>with /i/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>i</td>
<td></td>
<td>i</td>
<td>i</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>e</td>
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<td>e</td>
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<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
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<tr>
<td>u</td>
<td>u</td>
<td></td>
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<td>u</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o</td>
<td></td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Places indicated with a dash show that an allophone does not occur in that position.
3-5. ALLOPHONICS OF CONSONANTS

Consonant phonemes and their allophones are given below. In each case a brief description of the sound and its occurrence is given followed by examples. The examples are given in phonemic transcription followed by their English glosses and then phonetic transcription.

1- It is noteworthy that Telangi and Old Telugu do not have a single aspirated sound, whereas Modern Telugu has all the aspirated counterparts of the plosives besides the aspirates as separate phonemes (see 3.0).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phoneme</th>
<th>Allophone</th>
<th>Description, occurrence and examples.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/p/</td>
<td>p^2</td>
<td>Voiceless bilabial plosive. It occurs in the initial and medial positions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/pit:a:mu/ 'tight' [pit:a:wU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/cui:mu/ 'show' [cui:pU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/cep:u/ 'tell' [cep:U]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/kapti/ 'rogue' [kaptI]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/t/</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>Voiceless dental plosive. It occurs in the initial and medial positions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/t:oyu/ 'push' [t:oyU]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/t:ain-ta/ 'grandfather' [t:ain tA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/et:u/ 'high' [et:U]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Minor differences such as between the released and unreleased varieties of the consonants have not been described here, though they exist in the dialect. For example /pili:a/ 'girl' has the released variety of /p/ and /kapti/ has been unreleased variety. The released allophone of the consonant comes before the vowels and the unreleased one occurs before consonants. The released allophones come initially and medially and the unreleased ones occur only in the medial position, because the initial consonant clusters are not available in the dialect.
/t/  \[t\] \[t\] \[t\] is a voiceless retroflex plosive and \[t\] is a voiceless alveolar plosive. They occur in the initial and medial positions.

/tek:\u2019u/ 'pride' [tek\u2019u] \[tek\u2019u\] /tot\u2019e/'lip' \[tot\u2019e\] \[tot\u2019e\]

Voiceless palatal affricate. It occurs before front vowels and is in free variation with \[s\]

/ cet\u2019u/ 'tree' [cet\u2019u] \[cet\u2019u\] It takes length only in the medial position. When long and when preceded by /n/ it is not in free variation with \[s\]

/ guc:e / 'wrist' [guc:e] / manci/ 'good' \[manci\]

Voiceless prepalatal affricate. It occurs always before back vowels, without length in the initial position and with or without length in the medial position. When it occurs without length and when it is not preceded by /n/ it is in free variation with \[s\]

/ cuk:a / 'star' cuk:A \[suk:A\] / uc\u2019u / 'tangle' [uc\u2019u] / munc\u2019u / 'dip' \[munc\u2019u\]
Voiceless alveolar fricative. It occurs before all vowels without length in the initial position and with or without length in the medial position. It is not in free variation with [c] and [s] before a central vowel (as it is before front and back vowels).

/santa/ 'market' [santA]
/ra:sadup:a/ 'potato' ra:sadup:A

The distribution of the three allomorphs of /c/ can be represented as follows.

**Before front vowels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[s]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| [k] |

| /k/ |

**Before central vowels**

| [s] |

**Before back vowels**

| [z] |

Voiceless velar plosive. It occurs without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position, always before a back or central vowel.

/ka:nka/ 'heat' [ka:nka]
/nak:u/ 'hide' [nak:u]

Voiceless prevelar plosive; i.e. slightly fronter in articulation than [k]. It occurs before front vowels without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.

/kidki/ 'window' [kidki]
/kutke/ 'throat' [kutke]
/b/  
Voiced bilabial plosive. It occurs without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.
/babːiːpːitːa/ 'bat' [babːiːpːitːa]
/rambːa/ 'parrot' [rambːa]

d/ 
Voiced dental plosive. It occurs without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.
/dagːu/ 'cough' [dagːu]
/pedːa/ 'big' [pedːa]
/andːu/ 'there' [andːu]

d/ [d]-[d] (d) is a voiced retroflex plosive and [d] is a voiced alveolar plosive. They occur without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.
/dɔŋɡa/ 'boat' [dɔŋɡa] [dɔŋɡa]
/tɛdːu/ 'car' [tɛdːu] [tɛdːu]
/madːu/ 'pond' [madːu] [madːu]

/j/  
Voiced palatal affricate. It occurs before front and central vowels. In initial position it occurs without length and is in free variation with [z]
/jɪgːaːɡ/ 'lightning' [jɪgːaːɡ]-[zɪɡːaːɡ]
It occurs with or without length in medial position. When long and when preceded by /n/ it is not in free variation with [z]
/gudlːagːuŋji/ 'owl' [gudlːagːuŋji]
Voiced prepalatal affricate. It occurs before back vowels. In initial position it occurs without length and in medial position with or without length. When it occurs without length it is in free variation with [z]

/ jom:akaiyang/ ' maize' [jom:akaiyang] ~ [son:akaiyang]

when it takes length or when preceded by / n / it is not in free variation with [z]

/ nanju:nd/ ' flesh' [nanju:nd] ~ [nanju:n d]

Voiced alveolar fricative. It occurs in initial and medial positions also before central vowels and is in free variation with [j] and [z] except when they are long or are preceded by / n /.

/ jai:ru/ ' slip' [zai:ru] ~ [ja:ru]

The distribution of the three allomorphs of / j / can be summarized as follows:

Before from vowels. | Before central vowels. | Before back vowels.
[j] ~ [z] | [j] ~ [z] | [j] ~ [z]

/g/ Voiced velar plosive. It occurs before a back or central vowel without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.

/ga:li/ ' wind' [ga:li]

/ waingu/ ' river' [waingu]

/ nagiu / ' laughter' [nag:u]
Voiced prevelar plosive; i.e. slightly fronter than [g]. It occurs before front vowels, without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.

/ gilgila/ 'soft' [gilgilA]
/ na:nge:l/ 'plough' [na:n ge:l]

Voiced bilabial nasal. It occurs without length in initial position and after a short vowel in pre-consonant position. Medially between vowels it always occurs with length.

/m/ /m/  Vowel

/m/ /m/  Vowel

Voiced bilabial nasal less articulate than m. It occurs between a long vowel of the first syllable and the following homorganic consonant.

/m/ /m/  Vowel

/m/ /m/  Vowel

/m/ /m/  Vowel

Nasalised bilabial semi-vowel. It occurs in final and in intervocalic positions.

/w/ /w/  Vowel

/w/ /w/  Vowel

/w/ /w/  Vowel

1. All the nasal phonemes are spoken as 'half nasals' between a long vowel and the homorganic plosive or affricate. 'Full nasals' are found elsewhere including the position between a long vowel and
Voiced alveolar nasal. It occurs without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.

/ nida / 'yesterday' [ninaA]
/ Ka:nkA / 'gift' [ka:nkA]

Voiced alveolar nasal less articulate than [n] and occurs between a long vowel of the first syllable and an alveolar plosive.

/ to:nta / 'garden' [to:ntA] [to:ntA]

Voiced dental nasal. It occurs without length between a short vowel and a dental.

/ munta / 'pot' [munta]

Voiced dental nasal less articulate than n. It occurs without length between a long vowel in the initial syllable and a dental consonant.

/ mu:nhta / 'lid' [munta]

Voiced retroflex nasal. It occurs without length between short vowel and a retroflex consonant.

/ danda / 'garland' [danda] [danda]
Voiced retroflex nasal less articulate than \( n \) and occurs between a long vowel of the first syllable and a retroflex consonant, and between a short vowel of the second syllable and a retroflex consonant of the third syllable.

\[
/\text{to\-inta}/ \text{'garden'} [\text{to}^{\text{n}}\text{tA}]-[\text{to}^{\text{n}}\text{tA}]
\]

\[
/\text{ip\-undu}/ \text{'now'} [\text{ip}^{\text{n}}\text{dU}]-[\text{ip}^{\text{n}}\text{dU}]
\]

\( \text{[n]} \)

Voiced palatal nasal. It occurs between a short vowel and a palatal.

\[
/\text{ginja}/ \text{'seed'} [\text{ginjA}]
\]

\( \text{[n]} \)

Voiced palatal nasal, less articulate than \( \text{[n]} \) and occurs between a long vowel and a palatal of the first syllable. This, however, is a rare sound in the dialect.

\[
/\text{ba\-inja}/ \text{'trumpet'} [\text{ba}^{\text{n}}\text{jA}]
\]

\( \text{[n]} \)

Voiced prepalatal nasal. It occurs between a short vowel and a pre-palatal consonant.

\[
/\text{mu\-cu}/ \text{'dip'} [\text{mu}^{\text{n}}\text{U}]
\]
Voiced prepalatal nasal, less clearly pronounced than \(\hat{n}\) and occurs between the long vowel and the following prepalatal of the first syllable.

/ gainju ' bangle \(\hat{\text{gai}}\hat{n}\text{jU}\)/

Voiced velar nasal. It occurs between a short vowel and a velar consonant.

/ kanka / ' therefore ' kanka / bonke / ' neck ' bonkE

Voiced velar nasal less articulate than \(\hat{n}\) and occurs between the long vowel and a velar consonant of the first syllable and between short vowel of the second syllable and the velar consonant of the third syllable.

/ a:nku / ' leaf ' [a:\h kU] / ta:nku / ' attack' [ta:\h kU] / telang\(\hat{\text{A}}\) / ' name of a caste' [telang\(\hat{\text{A}}\)] / welung\(\hat{\text{u}}\) / ' light ' [welu \(\hat{n}\) gU]

The following diagram indicates the range of each of the nasal phonemes, showing the place and the manner of its articulation.
Voiced alveolar trill. It occurs in without length in initial and medial positions. It is less voiced when it is followed by a voiceless consonant.

/ ra:y1 / 'stone' [ra:y1]  
/ (w)u:ru/ 'village' [(w)u:ru]  
/ (w)urta / 'squirrel' [(w)urta]

Voiced dental lateral. It occurs without length in initial position and with or without length in medial position.

/lag:at/ 'rein' [lag:at]  
/wala / 'net' [wala]  
/il:u / 'home' [il:u]

occasionally / l / is available in final position when it appears a little longer than usual.

/paga:l/ 'noon' [paga:l(w)]

Voiced retroflex lateral. It occurs with or without length in medial position when the preceding sound is voiced retroflex.

/guldagunji/ 'owl' [guldagunji]  
/wadlu / 'paddy' [wadlu]

occasionally / l / in free variation with / l / especially when it is long.
Voiced bilatral semi vowel. It occurs without length in initial and medial positions.

/w/ [w]

Voiced labio-dental fricativeless continuant. It occurs with length in medial position.

/y/ [y]

Voiced palatal semi vowel. It occurs without length in initial position; and with or without length in medial position. In initial position /y/ followed by /i/ or /e/ is in free variation with its absence, i.e., /y/ followed by front vowels is
optionally used.

\[(y) \text{inka} / \text{'yet'} [\text{inkA}] \sim [\text{inkA}] \]
\[(y) \text{endu} / \text{'where'} [\text{endU}] \sim [\text{endU}]\]

In medial position, however, no such free variation is available.

\[ \text{rayi} / \text{'stone'} [\text{rayI}] \sim [\text{rayI}] \]
\[ \text{ayya} / \text{'father'} [\text{ayA}] \sim [\text{ayA}] \]

3.6 **Nasalization**

In Telangi, nasalization is a simple phenomenon. Vowels following a nasal are always nasalized, which means that no contrast is available between a nasalized vowel and a non-nasalized vowel in this position. Examples are:

\[ \text{mogia} / \text{'bud'} [\text{mogA}] \sim [\text{mogA}] \]
\[ \text{nagiu} / \text{'laughter'} [\text{nagI}] \sim [\text{nagI}] \]
\[ \text{weniu} / \text{'butter'} [\text{wenIU}] \sim [\text{wenIU}] \]
\[ \text{wemiu} / \text{'curry leaf'} [\text{wemIU}] \sim [\text{wemIU}] \]

Vowels flanked by nasal consonants on both sides are invariably nasalized. Here again, it is phonetically possible to produce a non-nasalized vowel, but as no contrasts are available such nasalization is treated as non-phonemic. Examples are:

\[ \text{ninia} / \text{'yesterday'} [\text{ninA}] \sim [\text{ninA}] \]
\[ \text{meyu} / \text{'we (and)'} [\text{meyU}] \sim [\text{meyU}] \]
When a vowel is followed by a nasal it is not nasalized. Examples:

/ ramba / 'parrot' [rampa]
/tunka/ 'piece' [tunkA]

/nb/ and /nk/ in these examples an consonant clusters when the nasal is fully articulated without carrying over its nasal features to the following consonants. In the following examples, /n/ before the velar stops, viz., /k/ and /g/ is heard with its nasal feature spread to the following velar, i.e., /k/ and (/g/ in this position are slightly nasalized.

Examples:

/ inka / 'yet' [inkA]
/dunga / 'log of wood' [dunga]

Nasals, including what is technically known as 'pre-consonant nasal,' are frequently available in the dialect. The pre-consonant nasal, consisting of a group of nasals, occurs in Telangti between a long vowel and the following stops, and it assumes the phonetic features of the consonant that follows it.

The 'pre-consonant nasal' is a collective name for all the half-articulated allophones of nasals mentioned above. Sh. Krishna Murthy believes that the pre-consonant nasal available in classical Telugu has been lost in Modern Telugu (Telugu verbal Bases, pp. /) but K Mahadeva Sastry cites examples of it from some Telugu speakers in Tamil Nadu ( ).

It may be emphasized here that it has been retained in Telangti.
Thus, between a long vowel and the following velar the pre-consonant nasal assumes the velar features. Examples:

/ka:nka/ 'heat' [ka:n kA]
/wa:n-gu/ 'river' [wa:n gu]

Before retroflex consonants the pre-consonant nasal assumes the retroflex coloring.
/t'oj-n-ta/ 'garden' [to:n tA]
/go:n-da/ 'staircase' [go:n dA]

Before dentals it shares the dental features.
/p'o:n-ta/ 'flower' [pu:n tA]
/po:n-da/ 'bush' [po:n dA]

Before the bilabial consonants it acquires the bilabial features.
/c'u:n-pu/ 'shoe' [cu:n pu]
/e:m-bad-i/ 'drifty' [ei:m badi]

Before the palatals and pre-palatals it gets palatalized or pre-palatalized respectively.
/ba:n-ja/ 'trumpet' [ba:n ja]
/ga:n-juk/ 'tangle' [ga:n ju]

The pre-consonant nasal also occurs between the vowel of the second syllable and the consonant of the third syllable of a word in trisyllabic words. Examples:

/wel-ungu/ 'light' [welun gu]
/ep-un-du/ 'then' [epun gu]
/ap-un-du/ 'then' [apun gu]

1. In all these words the nasal has been lost in Modern Colloquial Telugu and is optionally used for presodical reasons in literary Telugu.
3.7 LENGTH

3.7.1 VOWEL LENGTH

Vowel length is phonemic in the dialect. With the exception of /ə/, all the vowels contrast with their counterparts with length in both initial and medial positions. Vowels with length, however, are not available in final position. /o/ without length in initial position only in a limited number of words. The following pairs prove that length is phonemic in the dialect.

/ɪ/ : /i:/

/ɪla/ 'world' [ɪlA]
/ɪ:la/ 'whistle' [iːlA]
/pil:a/ 'girl' [pil:A]
/pil:la/ 'yellow' [pil:la]

/u/ : /u:/

/urki/ 'having run' [urki]
/u:rkI/ 'to village' [uːrkI]
/munta/ 'pot' [munta]
/muntA/ 'lid' [muntA]

/e/ : /e:/

/endu/ 'dry' [endU]
/e:ndu/ 'seven' [eːndU]
/me:p:u/ 'praise' [meːp:U]
/meːmpu/ 'graze' [meːm pU]
/ o / : / e / :

/ tolka / ' wave ' [tolkA]
/ tolka / ' bark ' [tolkA]

/ a / : / a : /

/ kanka / ' therefore ' [kankA]
/ kanka / ' gift ' [kankA]

That / i i : / and / e e : / , / u u : / and / o / in initial position are optionally pronounced as / yi / / yi : / and / ye / / ye : / , / wu / / wu : / and / wo / does not make any substantial difference to the present analysis.

The distribution of vowel phonemes shows that the medial position is the most prominent in the dialect which is clearly occupied by all the vowels. The initial position is less prominent as only central vowels show clear occurrence in that position, whereas the front and back vowels are weakly positioned there. Their weakness in that position is that they are shifted to the medial position by taking / y / and / w / respectively in their preceding position; without causing the item to be different. The final position is the least prominent because no vowel with length is available there. The distribution of vowel phonemes with and without length is given in the following table.
CONSONANT LENGTH

What is traditionally treated as doubling of consonants in Telugu orthography is treated as length of the consonant in the present dialect. When a consonant is given length it contrasts with the consonant without length. In articulating a consonant with length, the articulator is held for a longer time at the point of articulation thereby increasing the duration of the sound. Almost every consonant has its lengthened counterpart in the dialect. Lengthened consonants are not available in initial and final positions. In all the cases they are phonemically found in the intervocalic position. Phonemic contrasts between a consonant and its lengthened counterpart are available in the following pairs.

\[
\begin{array}{llllll}
\text{INITIAL} & \text{MEDIAL} & \text{FINAL} \\
\text{with } /i/ & \text{without } /i/ & \text{with } /i/ & \text{without } /i/ & \text{with } /i/ & \text{without } /i/ \\
\text{(y) i} & \text{(y) i} & \text{i} & \text{i} & - & \text{i} \\
\text{(y) e} & \text{(y) e} & \text{e} & \text{e} & - & \text{e} \\
\text{(w) u} & \text{(w) u} & \text{u} & \text{u} & - & \text{u} \\
\text{a} & \text{a} & \text{a} & \text{a} & - & \text{a} \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
/1/ / i : / i: /
\]

\[
\text{ka}l\text{u} / ' \text{le}g' / [\text{ka}l\text{u}]
\]

\[
\text{ka}l\text{u} / ' \text{legs}' / \text{ka}l\text{u}
\]
/ g / : / g:\ 

/ moga:ndu / ' husband ' [mog\a:n du] 
/ mog:a / ' bud ' [mog:a]

/ t / : / t:\ 

/ kata:rI / ' sword ' [kata:rI]
/ kat:u / ' farten ' [kat:u]

/ p / : / p:\ 

/ kapti / ' rogue' [kap\tI]
/ kap:u / ' cover up ' [kap:u]

Between a long vowel and a short vowel, consonants with length are rare. Some of the few available examples are:

/ mi:l:u / ' water ' [ni:l:u]
/ ka:l:u / ' legs' [ka:l:u]

Consonants with length are also not frequent between a short vowel and a long vowel. Where they are available, it is noticed that the length the vowel following a long consonant in Telangö is compensatory to the loss of final vowel of standard Telugu. Examples are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Telangö</th>
<th>Standard Telugu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ podu:nə/</td>
<td>/ p(r)oduna /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ netu:n /</td>
<td>/ net:uru /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ pagal/</td>
<td>/ pagalu /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ tam:ud/</td>
<td>/ tam:udu /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ sel:u:l /</td>
<td>/ sel:elu /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ Gur:a:m /</td>
<td>/ Gurt:amu /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ mudla:l /</td>
<td>/ mudata:lu /</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Phonetically long (but phonemically short) consonants between a short vowel and a short consonant are frequently available in the dialect.

/ ilmu / 'iron' [ilmu]  
/kinka/ 'anger' [kin'ka]  
/kapti/ 'rogue' [kap'ti]

The duration of the consonantal articulation in this position is, however, shorter than that of the phonemically long consonants here-is in the intervocalic position. The length of the consonants here is predictable as their shorter counterparts never occur in this position. The 'half-length' may be regarded as compensatory lengthening, because the vowel between the consonants (which is still retained in standard Telugu), has been lost in the dialect. In Telugu these words have the following forms.

/ inumu / 'iron' inumu  
/kinuka / 'anger' kinuka  
/kapti / 'cheat' kapti

---------------------------------------------------------------
1. Free variation between / l / and / n / is still found in many dialects of Telugu as attested in words like
   / telugu / / temugu / ; / milaga / / mmaga /

2. / kinuka / and / kapti / are now no longer used in colloquial Telugu, but are archaic words confined to literary usage.
Predictable lengthening of consonants between a long vowel and a consonant, like that between a short vowel and consonant, is, from a historical perspective, also of compensatory nature. Examples:

/ kaːnka / 'gift' [kaːnːkaː]
/ weːlpu / 'deity' [weːlːpuː]
/ naːlka / 'tongue' [naːlːkaː]

/ u / between the 'half-long' consonant and the consonant that follows it is still retained, in most cases, in Modern Telugu and has been lost in Telangī. 2

Predictable lengthening of consonants in the interconsonantal position is a very rare phenomenon in the Telangī dialect. The only available example is

/ sarːpbanda / 'rock' [sarːpːbandaː]

The 'half-length' of / p / here might be due to the homorganic nature of the consonant that follows it.

1. In old Telugu / u / is available between the two consonants.

2. These words have the following forms in standard Telugu:

/ kaːnka / 'gift' / naːlka / 'tongue' and naːlka / are, however, used in free variation as the prosodical exigencies demand; / weːlpu / 'deity'

(without / u /) is used in standard Telugu as well.
BASTAR DISTRICT
Telangi - Speaking Villages

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Telangi-speaking villages

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Boundaries:
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- Tahsil HQ.