Polish Nasal Vowels

ręka [rɛŋk] (vowel is slightly nasalized) "hand"

rząd [ont] "row"

rządzić [ońʒ] "govern"

gęba [emb] "mouth, trap"

gęsty [eũs] (ũ = nasal glide) "thick"

kęs chleba "piece of bread"

cenzura "censorship"

wąski "narrow"

wąs [owũs] "mustache"

konsul [owũ] "consul"

anons [owũ] "announcement"

inspektor [iwũ] or [iũ] "inspector"

czynsz [yũ] "rent"

latarnie chińskie "Chinese lantern"

rynsztok [yũ]? "gutter, ditch"

kamień młyński "mill stone"

londyński most [ũj] "London bridge"

gęś [eũ] "goose"

żeński "woman’s"

cieńszy "thinner"

awans [awũ] "advance"

szansa [awũ] "chance"
I. If we hypothesize that there are nasal V phonemes, then we must posit diphthongization and assimilation rules:

\[
\text{diphthongization} - /\mathcal{V}/ \rightarrow [\mathcal{V}\breve{\mathcal{W}}]
\]
\[
\text{assimilation} - [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] \rightarrow [C\ [\text{-cnt} \alpha \text{ place}]]/[\_C\ [\text{-cnt} \alpha \text{ place}]]
\]

II. If we hypothesize that there are no nasal V phonemes:

\[
/\mathcal{V}N/ \rightarrow [\mathcal{V}\breve{\mathcal{W}}]/\_S \quad (S = \text{any fricative})
\]

The evidence seems to favor II.

Шаумян:

\[
/\mathcal{V}/ \rightarrow [\mathcal{V}\breve{\mathcal{W}}] \quad /\mathcal{V}/ = /q/
\]
\[
/\mathcal{V}N/ \rightarrow [\mathcal{V}\breve{\mathcal{W}}]
\]

final position: ton [on]

tom [om]

ta [ow\breve{\mathcal{W}}]

ta [e] \sim [ew\breve{\mathcal{W}}]

Stieber:

/q/ is a phoneme, but only in final position--this is probably the most reasonable analysis.

If we posit /\mathcal{V}N/, what is this N?

Fricatives: \[f \ s \ \hat{s} \ \dot{s} \ x \]

| m   | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] | [m] | [m] | [m] | [m] | [m] |
| n   | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] | [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] |
| n'  | -- | [\j] | [\j] | [\j] | -- |

N \langle e, a\rangle ? [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] [\breve{\mathcal{W}}]/[\j] [\breve{\mathcal{W}}] (Which nasals occur before which fricatives? m behaves funny, becomes \breve{\mathcal{W}} only before organic fricatives. N looks like n.)