DISTINCTIVE FEATURES: TWO ISSUES_DATA

1. **THE FEATURE [±tense]**

The feature [±tense] works well with high and mid vowels. It cuts the high vowel space into two: upper high and lower high, and, similarly, the mid vowels space is divided into upper mid and lower mid.

Upper high and upper mid vowels are [+tense] while lower high and lower mid vowels are [-tense]. Vowels that are [-tense] are called lax vowels.

**Standard Polish vowels** (Biedrzycki 1974: 28)

The feature [±tense] distinguishes, for example, Polish [i] from English [i] and Polish [ɛ] from English [e]:

Polish [i] is [+tense] while English [i] is [-tense]

Polish [ɛ] is [-tense] while English [e] is [+tense].
2. IS POLISH \[\text{i}\] CLASSIFIED AS [-back] OR [+back]?

Standard Polish vowels (Biedrzycki 1974: 28)

(1)

(2)
How do the following data help us decide whether //i/ and //a/ are [-back] or [+back]?

brud – brudzić //brud+i+ʨ// → [bruʥiʨ]

brud – brudz+ie (loc.sg.) //brud+iʨ// → [bruʣe]

brud – brud+u (gen.sg.) //brud+u// = [brudu]

brud – bru+om (dat.pl.) //brud+ɔm//= [brudɔm]

brud+ami (instr.pl.) //brud+ami//= → brudam’i]

brud – brud+y (nom.pl.) //brud+i//= [brudi]

What exactly is the argument for deciding whether the central vowels //i/ and //a/ are [-back] or [+back]?