

Handout 12 **Insights from Lexical Morphology**

Chapter 6 (Katamba)

Output of each layer must be a word.

Lexical rules must be structure preserving

Two potential grey areas

Most of the verb roots and suffixes end in a consonant and words end in a vowel.

Grammaticalized basic verbal suffix

ba – lab - a

they – see –BVS

‘they see’

Ba-lab-agan-a

They-see-each other-BVS

BVS= basic verbal suffix

Morpheme is a unit of analysis for fusional languages is a problem.

The languages contain a lot of portmanteau morphs. Since morphs are unanalyzable word as a unit comes as a rescuer.

Input and out both are words

1. Compounding: School teacher is a compound of School and Teacher

2. Affixation: suffix re- and ly-

open—reopen , quick- quickly

3. Conversion: Change the word class without changing the morphological shape

Staff_N—Staff_v

Stratum ordering reflecting morpheme sequencing

| | | | |
|----------------|------|-------|------|
| Root morphemes | priv | popul | port |
|----------------|------|-------|------|

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|-----|------|
| Affix Morphemes | de | -at | -ion |
|-----------------|----|-----|------|

deprivation, populate , depopulation, population, port , portion, deport , deportation

There is a clear ordering between stratum 1 and stratum 2 suffixes

Suffix less, ness and full are neutral stratum suffixes although there is a clear ordering

home less ness but not * home ness less

Suffix ness attaches to noun base to get adjectives whereas less and full to get adjectives from verb

power_N-less_A-ness_N

[Care]]ful or [care]less]]

suffixes come with features N,A,

they attached to words , the right handmost suffix percolates that is it spread its features across the entire word

Ordering of strata is fixed , stratum 1 must apply before stratum 2. But within stratum rules are not extrinsically ordered rather they are intrinsically ordered.

Rule ordering

Within each lexical stratum rules are not extrinsically ordered but they are intrinsically ordered.

Universal principles about sequencing of rules.

For ex if rule A feeds i.e. creates the input to Rule Rule B where rule B is also at the same stratum then rule A must apply before rule B.
*[power_N]-less_A]-ness_A] is blocked.

Lexical rules are organized in hierarchical strata.

Rules belonging to same stratum share morpho syntactic properties

Lexical rules are cyclic.

Stratum ordering and productivity

Meaning of at stratum 1 is less coherent than stratum 2 ones

X-less means without X

Regular –less is predictable vs. -ous which is a stratum 1 affix

Consider danger-ous vs. pious

Stratum ordering and conversion

Do verbs changes into nouns or nouns change into verbs? Question of directionality

Stratum 1

Noun from verbs

Sur'vey → 'survey

tor'ment → 'torment (deverbaliztion)

stratum 2 verbs from nouns regular derivation

'pattern → 'pattern (Denominalization)

Read on Strict cyclicity condition , Bracket erasure convention, elsewhere condition and blocking

Morphological rules can access information found on the stratum they operate.

Strict cyclicity & Bracket erasure convention which removes the bracket at the end of each cycle in the lexicon.

Sink- sank drink –drank

Link-lank

The reason is ablaut applies at stratum 1

In the second example link is derived from noun, this conversion applies at stratum 2 therefore strict cyclicity.

Bracket erasure convention

[[defend_v]and]_{N,agent} → [defendant-s]_N → [defendants]_N

[[book_N]shop_N]_N → [[bookshop]]_{N-S} → [bookshop]_N

[Pet]_N → [[Pet]_{N-S}]_N → [pets]_N

Problems

Lack of required syntactic properties in the input

Prefix un attaches to adjectives and not anything else

unkind , unjust but not untree * or *unsoon

Stratum 1: [[govern]_{VERB}able]_{ADJ}



[governable]_{ADJ}ity_{NOUN}

(→ governability_{NOUN})

Stratum 2: [ADJ[un[[governability]_{NOUN}]]

Paradox 2: Lack of required phonological properties in the input

tall taller; trendy trendier , er attaches to mono syllabic and a few disyllabic words

look at the following derivation

happy_A

[[happy_A]er_A] suffixation of –er

[_Aun[happyer_A]] prefixation of un-

This bracketing incorrectly corroborates the semantic analysis as the following

[_Aun happyer_A]

[not[more happy]]

The correct meaning of unhappier is more not happy

which is [un hapy]erA]

not happy more

Semantic analysis contradicts the phonological conditioning

paradox 3 : morpheme sequence out of kilter with morphological cycle

Stratum 1 is closer to the root.

Exceptions

readability, sellibility

stratum 2 able is closer to the root than -ity

solution

The problem is because rules are strictly cyclic and brackets are erased after the derivation.

Mohanan and Halle argued that this can be resolved by introducing loop and imaging four strata .

Loop is a device that allows a stratum distinction for the basis of phonology and not on the morphological distinction

Loop

stratum 1 derivation irregular inflection

stat 2 stratum 2 derivation

stat 3 compounding

stat 4: regular inflection

for the purpose of morphology prefixation stat 2 re- and ex- and suffix ness and full apply to the stem, and compounding also belong to the same stratum but for the phonology they are put on distinct strata linked by a loop.