Course: Phonology-Morphology Interface
                                     Jadertina Summer School in Empirical and Computational Linguistics
                                     University of Zadar
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Short description of course:

In this course we will investigate two of the ways in which phonology and morphology interact:

The first topic to be dealt with is 'phonologically-conditioned suppletive allomorphy', which can be illustrated with the distribution of *a* vs. *an* in English. These two allomorphs are suppletive (the n-zero alternation only involves a single morpheme) and phonologically-conditioned (one allomorph occurs before a vowel and the other before a consonant).

The second topic to be discussed is 'paradigm uniformity effects', i.e. the tendency in natural languages to avoid allomorphy within a paradigm. For example, in English /n/ regularly deletes at the end of a word if it cannot be syllabified (e.g. the deletion of /n/ in *damn* [dæm] from /dæmn/), but it is also deleted before vowel-initial inflectional suffixes, where it would surface syllable-initially if it were not deleted, e.g. [dæm-ɪŋ] (from /dæmn-ɪŋ/).

The goal of the class is to compare various theoretical approaches to phonologically-conditioned suppletive allomorphy and paradigm uniformity effects, in particular standard derivational approaches vs. output-oriented approaches such as Optimality Theory. Data will be drawn from a wide variety of languages.

Prerequisites: Basic knowledge of derivational phonology and Optimality Theory.