Week 1

LING 105: Morphology
Apr. 7, 2023

1 Introduction

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  Office hours: 11am-1pm on Thursdays at Rolfe 1110
- Let's get to know each other:
  - Name, pronouns, and major
  - Languages you speak and/or are interested in
  - One thing you are looking forward to in life (or in morphology :)

2 Basics

- Two kinds of morphology:
  - **Derivational morphology**: use of words to generate new words
  - **Inflectional morphology**: modification of words for grammatical purposes
  - Which type of morphology does each of the example show?

    (1) a. learn → learnable → learnability → DM → categories change
    b. analyze → analyzed (past tense) → IM → categories remain the same
- Method for morphological analysis:
  - compile a collection of morphologically similar words and their meanings
  - scrutinize it to determine which phoneme sequences remain the same whenever the meaning remains the same
  - isolate the meaningful chunk, i.e. **morphemes**: smallest unit w/ linguistic meaning
    - **stems**: the base word
    - **prefix, suffix, infix**: morphems attached to stems to modify them, bound

  ☞ break down the following words into morphemes (**segmentation**) and identify what kind of morphemes they are.

    (2) a. derivational → derive (stem) -ation (suffix) -al (suffix) → DM
    b. unsolvable → un- (prefix) solve (stem) -able (suffix)
    c. disrespectful → dis- (prefix) respect (stem) -ful (suffix)
- Leipzig Glossing Rules (https://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/pdf/Glossing-Rules.pdf)

  (3) K'iche' (a Mayan language spoken in Guatemala)

morpheme = to = morpheme

le ixaq x-Ø-r-il le tz'i' iwur
DET woman PST-3SG.ABS-3SG.ERG-see DET dog yesterday
'The woman saw the dog yesterday.'

3 Puzzles

I. **Tzutujil** (a Mayan language spoken in Guatemala)
Identify the morphological constituents and their meanings in the following Tzutujil verbs (Dayley 1985: 87) (A note on Tzutujil spelling: *x* is pronounced [ʃ] and 7 is pronounced [ʔ])

xinwari	'I slept'	*xoqeeli*	'we left'
neeli	'he or she leaves'	*ninwari*	'I sleep'
ne7eeli	'they leave'	*xixwari*	'you(PL) slept'
nixwari	'you(PL) sleep'	*xe7eeli*	'they left'
xateeli	'you(SG) left'	*xwari*	'he or she slept'
natwari	'you(SG) sleep'		

How would you say 'I left', 'he or she sleeps', 'we sleep'?

"I left" -> xineel,
"he or she sleeps" -> nwari
"we sleep" -> noqwari

x- : past tense
n- : present tense
- e7- : they
- in- : I
eeli : leave
wri : sleep
- oq- : we
- ix - you(sg)
- ix - you(PL)

II. **Hebrew** (a Semitic language with *non-concatenative* morphology)
In the following Hebrew words, find at least three sets of word pairs whose two members are related semantically and structurally, so that a morphological relationship can be assumed. For each set of word pairs, describe the structural and semantic differences.

kimut	'wrinkling'	*maħšev*	'computer'
diber	'he spoke'	*masger*	'lock'
ħašav	'he thought'	*dibra*	'she spoke'
sagra	'she shut'	*milmel*	'he muttered'
ħašva	'she thought'	*kimta*	'she wrinkled'
kalat	'he received'	*milmla*	'she muttered'
maklet	'radio receiver'	*sagar*	'he shut'
kalta	'she received'	*dibur*	'speech'
kimet	'he wrinkled'		

ħšv
klt
dbr = speak
kmt