Week 2

LING 105: Morphology Apr. 14, 2023

Announcement

No sections next week (Apr.21)!

Instead I will have two extra office hours (time TBD) to help you with the proposal. I will also try to accommodate appointments outside my office hours before Friday (Apr.21). Email me with 2-3 time slots if you would like to meet but can't make it my office hours.

1 Allomorphs

- Morphemes may have different phonological shapes under different circumstances.
- ⇒ Allomorphs: a single morpheme's different forms
 - Allomorphs are in complementary distribution.
 - e.g. Korean accusative suffix has _____ allomorphs

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ton 'money' ton-ul \( 'money-ACC' \) following \( \text{chayk} \) 'book' \( \text{chayk-ul} \) 'book-ACC' \\ tali \) 'leg' \( \text{tali-lul} \) 'leg-ACC' \( \text{apple-ACC'} \) 'apple' \( \text{sakwa-lul} \) 'apple-ACC' \( \text{-7 following a voue} \)
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- · Alternation: the formal relation between phonological allomorphs
 - Describing alternation in the following steps:
 - a. underlying representations
 - b. the respective rules in the examples
 - c. application of rule and surface representations
- Suppletive allomorphs: allomorphs that are not at all similar in pronunciation
 - e.g. Persian plural marking:

mærd	'man'	mœrd-an	'men'
geda	'beggar'	geday-an	'beggars'
gorbe	'cat'	gorbe-ha	'cats'
ettefag	'incident'	ettefaq-lıa	'incidents'

LING 105 Week 2

2 Somali plural marking

Four different allomorphs of plural marking in Somali are represented in the following examples. Based on the given data, formulate a hypothesis about the phonological conditions for each of the plural allomorphs.

SINGULAR	PLURAL	
arvorve	ละบอะบลyaal	'grandfather' => shends up 'e', drop the 'e', steplace with 'agent'
baabaco	baabacooyin	'palm' => Sa ends of 'o' add 'oyan'
beed	beedad	'egg'
buug	buugag	0 1/
cashar	casharro	'lesson' -> 2 syllables and ends of c, repeat C and add '.
fure	furayaal	'key'
ilmo	ilmooyin	'tear'
miis	miisas	'table' => CUVC -> add a Cz
qado	qadooyin	'lunch'
shabeel	shabcello	'leopard'
waraabe	waraabayaal	'hyena'
xidid	xididdo	'eagle'
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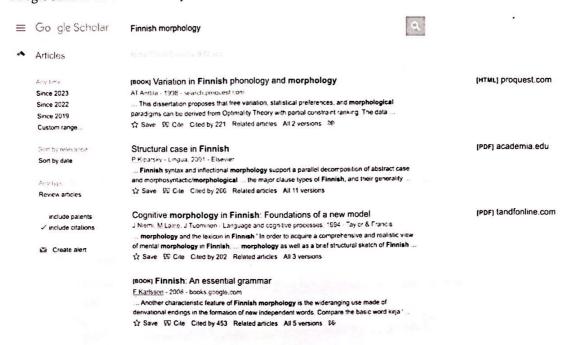
Based on the generalizations found, form the plural of the following nouns:

- (1) a. tuulo 'village' -> tumloojin
 - b. tog 'river' togag
 - c. albaad 'door' alsaaddo
 - d. buste 'blanket' > bustayaal

3 Research questions

- Step 1: Think of a broad question that you would like answered.
 - Language
 - Phenomena
 - Theory
- Step 2: Explore the literature
 - What questions are not answered by the existing literature on the topic you picked?
 - Think 'how' and 'why' while reading
- Step 3: Pick and evaluate
 - Choose a specific question that arose when reading the literature
- Maiden (2014):
 - Phenomenon: in Megleno-Romain dialects, two adjectives display suppletion correlated with number
 - Research question:
- * Extra tips:

 Start by typing the keywords (e.g. 'language name + morphology', or 'phenonmenon + language') in Google scholar or UCLA library



- Skim through the abstract and introduction of the most relevant papers that pop up.
- If you are interested in the topic, read a bit more of the paper and it usually tells you open questions for future research (mostly in the conclusion section), AND pay attention to
 - * the papers it frequently cited
 - other papers that cite this paper ('Cited by xxx' on Google Scholar)