LINGUISTICS 105:
Morphology

October 3, 2012:
Affix Typology; Item & {Process, Arrangement}

Administrations

- By now you should be looking at HW 1, it is not trivial in terms of time commitment.
  - Writeup should be like in other upper-division courses: a self-contained collection of prose that the grader could evaluate without looking at the prompt.
- Definitely should have read Language Files, ch.4.
- Start looking at Perlmutter (1988).
- Sections were yesterday.
- Corrected 10/1 slides posted on website.

Correction to Office Hours

- On the syllabus/initial versions of the website, Nate's office was listed as Stevenson 269.
- **Nate's office is Stevenson 265.**

The (partial) Deal about MRG

- MRG schedule:
  - **Tues. 10/9 9am:** Amy Rose Deal talks about Nez Perce allomorphy!
  - **Thurs.10/18 - onward:** Meetings off campus:
    1. Mark Norris' House
    2. Amy Rose Deal's House
    3. The Poet & Patriot Pub
  - Topics include the morphology of definiteness, very complicated agreement systems, and talks by Mark Norris and me.
- Contact me ***by email*** if you are interested.

Recalling Allomorphies

- There are three main kinds of allomorphy, *based upon what the regular condition is* that determines allomorph selection.
- Proper vocab: _____ CONDITIONED ALLOMORPHY
  - PHONOLOGICALLY: allomorph selection conditioned by surrounding phones (only!).
  - GRAMMATICALLY: allomorph selection conditioned by surrounding morphs.
    - Also sometimes called CONTEXTUAL ALLOMORPHY.

Mixed Cases

- Not always the case that a given instance of allomorphy is totally analyzable as grammatically conditioned or phonologically conditioned.
  - In this case, we're looking for the *best description of the empirical situation*.
  - *Usually*, this involves positing some allomorphs which are grammatically conditioned and others which are phonologically conditioned.
- However, judicious use of phonological rules might make it possible to treat all the allomorphs as grammatically conditioned.

English Plurals, Redux

Singular	Plural	Allomorph	
airstream	airstreams	[-z]	Phonologically Conditioned
dad	dads	[-z]	
airboat	airboats	[-s]	
bank	banks	[-s]	
press	presses	[-ɪz]	
crèche	crèches	[-ɪz]	
ox	oxen	[-ɛn]	Grammatically Conditioned
goose	geese	V?	
alumnus	alumni	[-aɪ] + deletion	
octopus	octopodes	[-oʊdeɪs] + del.	

Morphology and Syntax: Timing

- So far, we have not discussed the relationship between all this morphology and the syntax you already know.
- **Tell me:** how did you deal with morphology in your syntax class?
  - Form rules are a good way to relate syntactic structure to morphological form which is determined *by* syntactic structure.
- Another answer to the English plurals problem is based on this observation:
  - *Idea:* make *all* the allomorphy grammatically conditioned, and deal with the s/z/ɪs in the phonology.

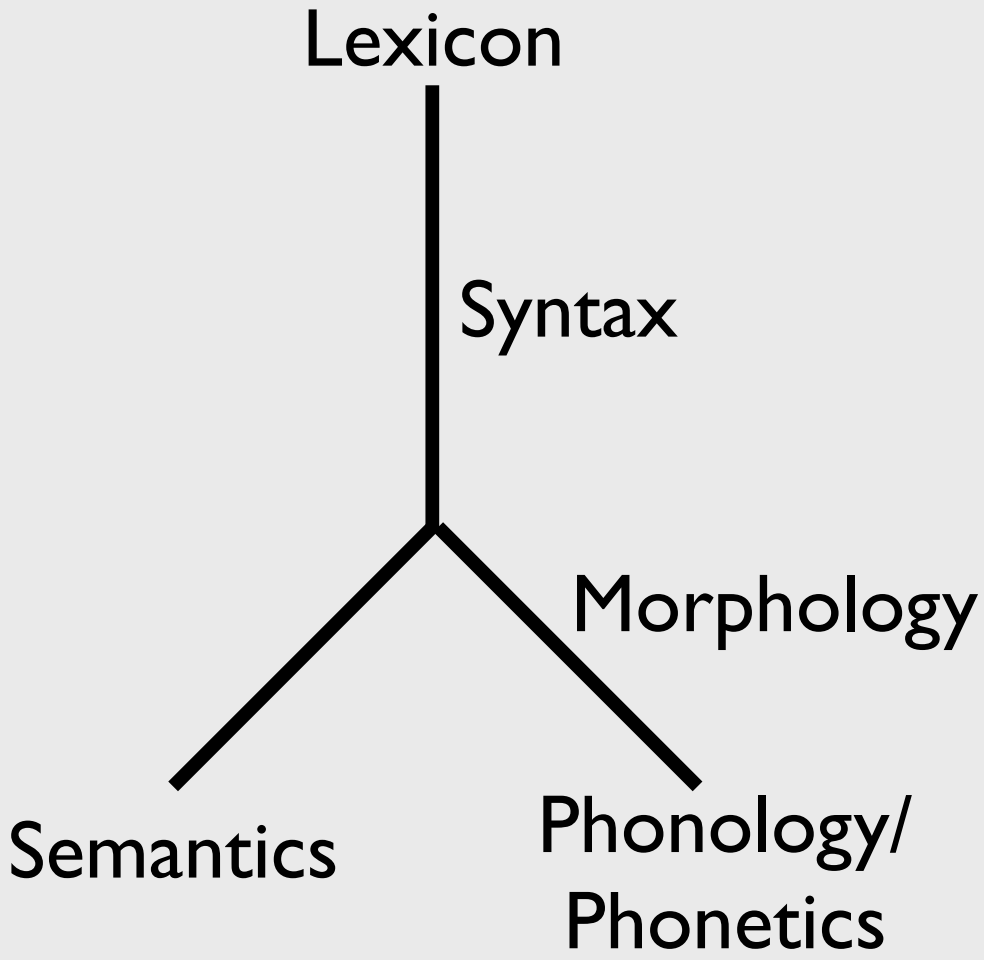
A Modular Solution

ALLOMORPH	CONDITION
[-z/-s/-ɪz]	airstream, airboat, crèche, ...
[-en]	ox, child, ...
[-aɪ]	alumnus, ...
[-ø]	goose, fish, ...
[-oʊdeɪs]	octopus, ...

/-z/ ⟶ [-voice]/[-voice]___

/-z/ ⟶ [+cont]/[+cont]___

The Y-Model


Lexicon
Syntax
Morphology
Semantics
Phonology/
Phonetics

Types of Affixes

Classifying Morphemes by Behavior

Free vs. Bound

- A morpheme can be either FREE or BOUND, a label which refers to its ability to appear in isolation.
- If a morph is not grammatical uttered by itself, then it is bound.
  - FREE MORPHEMES can appear on their own:

    aardvark ocelot he/she/it (ex?)

  - BOUND MORPHEMES only ever appear as part of a complex word made up of more than one morpheme:

    pre-/post-/con-/in- cran- -'s -ø

    ("Latinate" prefixes)

Lexical vs. Functional

- Morphemes can also be classified LEXICAL or FUNCTIONAL, based on how they are used.
- LEXICAL MORPHEMES are usually of category N, V, A, Adv, or possibly P.
  - They are usually an ***open class***: new members are created easily.
  - They carry most of the semantic weight of utterances they appear in.
- FUNCTIONAL MORPHEMES are usually of category D, C, T, possibly P, and whatever conjunctions are (Conj?).
  - They are a ***closed class***: new members hardly ever introduced.
  - They signal/support purely grammatical parts of utterances.

Examples – Lexical vs. Functional

Lexical

- dog, cat, Sterling, Mallory, linguistics, France, ... (N)
- hit, read, call, give, love, ... (V)
- high, low, stupid, smart, former, ... (A)
- quickly, slowly, prudishly, ... (Adv)
- about, around, through(out), into, ...(P)

Functional

- the, a, many, most, some, few, all, who, whom, which... (D)
- that, if, whether, ø, ... (C)
- -ed, -s, ... (T)
- will, would, may, must, ... (AUX)
- and, but, or, nor, neither (Conj)
- up, in, on, by, ... (P)

Attachment Issues

- An important distinction to make among morphemes which make up a single complex word: which morpheme is attaching to which?
  - Especially important when both morphemes are independently bound (*e.g.*, per-mit, con-ceive, re-duce, ex-hume, *etc.*).
- Basic division: AFFIXES attach to BASES.
  - AFFIX $=_{def}$ A bound morpheme which attaches to something (usually a root, stem, or base).
  - BASE $=_{def}$ (Katamba) "A base is any unit whatsoever to which affixes of any kind can be added. (p.45)"

Types of Affixes

- Affixes come in four major types:
  - PREFIXES: attach to the front of their base.

    pre- post- con- re- anti-
  - SUFFIXES: attach to the end of their base.

    -s -ed -er -est -able
  - INFIXES: attach word-internally (usually close to an edge of the word).

    abso-fucking-lutely saxa-ma-phone
  - CIRCUMFIXES: attach to both the beginning and end at the same time; true circumfixes are rare.

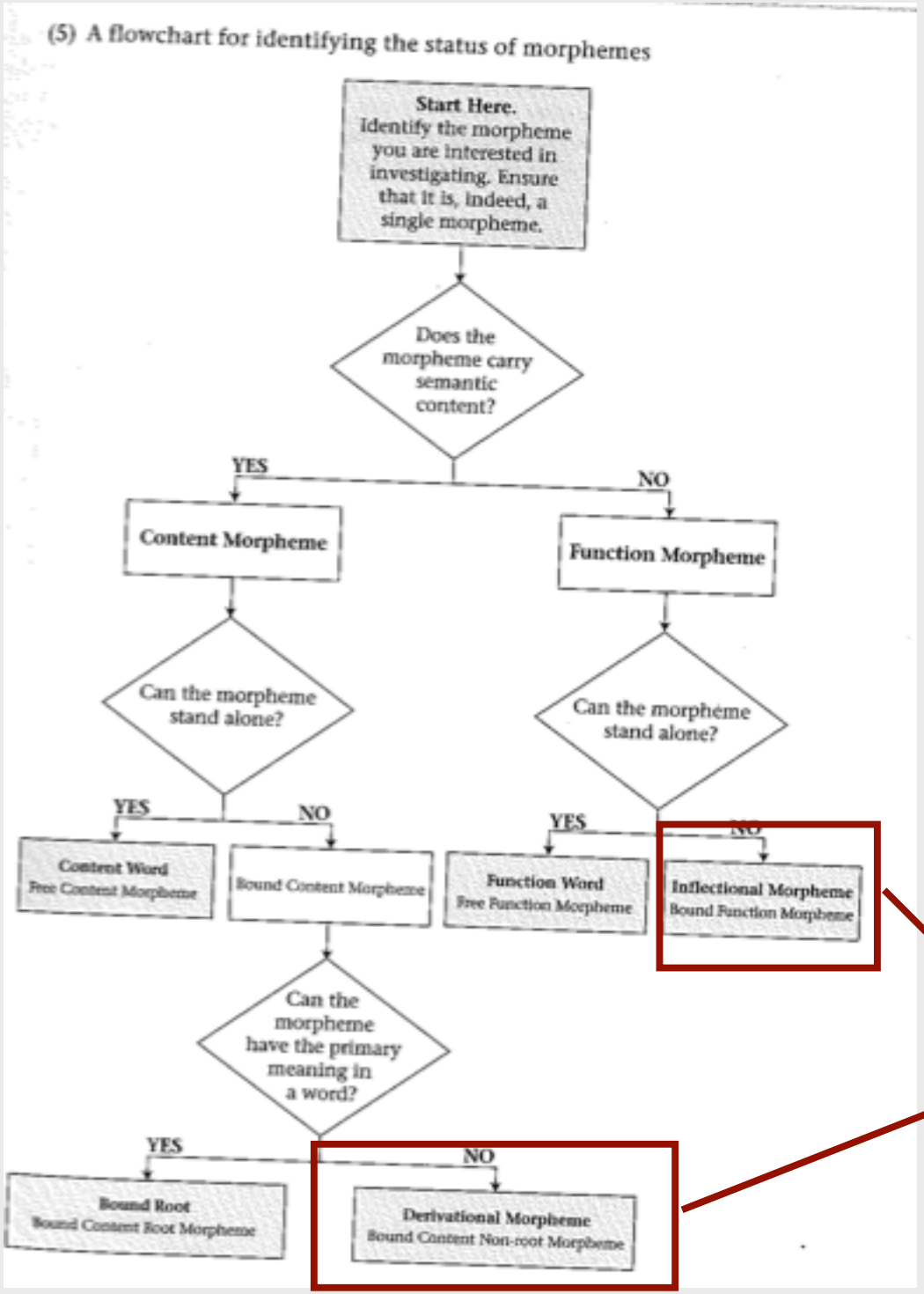
    katab-a “he wrote” ta-ktub-iina “she writes”

Types of Bases

- Bases come in at least two types:
  - ROOTS: Irreducible core of a word, to which *nothing* has been added.
    - Roots are always also stems and bases.

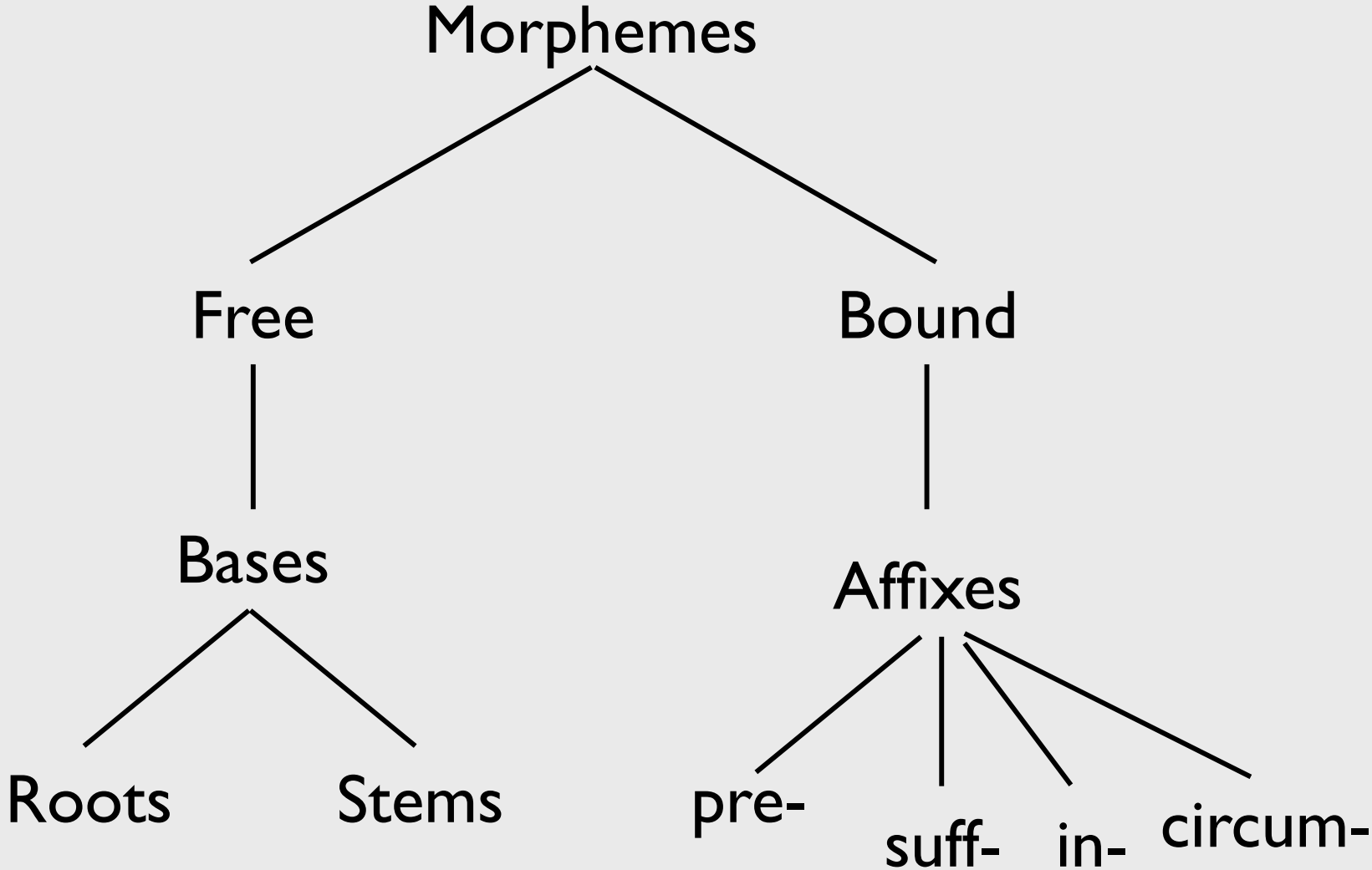
      √DOG √CAT √WALK √RUN
  - STEMS: part of a word before an affix is added.
    - usually applies only to inflectional affixes (≈agreement).
    - A stem is a base by definition, but is *not necessarily a root.*
    - A stem *could* be a Root + Affix combination!

      judge pre-judge kid kiddie



LF, ch.4:155

Be careful of these two endpoints; we will develop our own way of testing for this distinction.


Morphemes
Free
Bound
Bases
Affixes
Roots
Stems
pre-
suff-
in-
circum-

Conceptualizing Morphology

Adding Stuff or Doing Things?

Item-and Arrangement

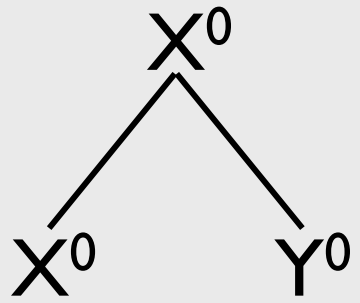
- So far, we have been talking in purely item-and-arrangement terms.
- ITEM-AND-ARRANGEMENT $=_{def}$ a conception of morphology in which **items** (bases, affixes, etc.) are **arranged** with respect to one another, and that is all morphology does.
- This was a popular view for hundreds of years, and still is.
- In this conception, there aren't any morphological rules *per se*, unless you consider the insertion of items a rule-based process.

Compounding

- The item-and-arrangement view makes good sense of another kind of morphology: *compounding*.
- COMPOUNDING $=_{def}$ a process which takes two {roots, bases} and makes them into a single word.
- Examples include:

  teapot weekend attorney general well-done

- We will talk a lot more about compounding in week 5 of the course.
- Their syntax is contentious, but:



Item and Process

- The opposing view eschews the idea that all one has to do is arrange the relevant morphemes and then go to the beach.
- ITEM-AND-PROCESS =def a conception of morphology in which **items** are operated on by various kinds of **processes**.
- Some processes simply insert morphemes into their correct position (i.e., *arranges*) them.
- In this conception, the rules are just as important as the items.
- There are some data that this theory understands *very well*.

Truncative Morphology

- TRUNCATIVE MORPHOLOGY $=_{def}$ the deletion of material in the base to create the derived form.
- Nickname (technical: HYPOCORISTIC) formation is a great example of this:

Michael ⟶ Mike Bernadette ⟶ Bern

- But it goes further; some languages use it for purely grammatical means.
- Hebrew colloquial imperatives:

tiftax ⟶ ftax! takum ⟶ kum!

"he opened" "open!" "he got up!" "get up!"

(Bat-El 2002)

Ablaut and Melodic Overwriting

- These are cover terms for "changing a vowel."
  - ABLAUT $=_{def}$ change of a vowel to indicate a change in grammatical function.

    ride~rode~ridden strike~struck~stricken
- Typically, these evolve from historically lost synchronic phonological vowel harmony rules.
  - Ex.: Germanic UMLAUT.

    tooth~teeth brother~bretheren
- However, for some languages, these are the rule, rather than the exception (Semitic):

  katab "it/he wrote" kutab "it/he was written"

(wug)

Reduplication

- REDUPLICATION $=_{def}$ repeating {part of, all of} a word for grammatical effect.
- Doesn't really exist in English, but:

You bring the fruit salad and I'll bring the SALAD salad.

I'll date a linguist, but I won't DATE date a linguist.

- Much more common in languages of SE Asia and Oceania.
- Acehnese (Malayo-Polynesian; Indonesia) plural reduplication:

buya "crocodile(s)"
buya-buya "crocodiles"

Metathesis

- METATHESIS $=_{def}$ the exchange of position between two elements (usually phones) for grammatical effect.

  ICE: ask ⟶ aks

- Really quite rare as a morphological process *sui generis*: usually accompanied by the addition of a morpheme near the metathesis site.
- Kui (Dravidian; Orissa, India) past tense marking:

Normally:	Stem-final Velars:
gas "to hang oneself"	lek "to break"
↓	↓
gas+pi "to have hanged oneself"	lep+ki "to have broken"

(Hume 2001)