LINGUIST 168 Introduction to Linguistic Typology

LECTURE 11: MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY

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Plan for today

- phonological typology: stress
- morphological typology
 - discussion questions
 - > object of study
 - dimensions of cross-linguistic variation

Bound morphemes:

> What types of bound morphemes?

prefixing	suffixing	infixing	suprafixing
introfixing			

How much allomorphy (different forms of same morpheme)?



Free versus bound morphemes:

Does a language tend to use free or bound morphemes?



How many morphemes tend to appear together in a word?



How much information can be included in a morpheme?



Bound morphemes:

> What types of bound morphemes?

prefixing	suffixing	infixing	suprafixing	introfixing

> How much allomorphy (different forms of same morpheme)?



Linear bound morphemes

prefixes precede the root

pre-fixes suf- fixes

• **suffixes** follow the root

suffix**-es** suffix**-at-ion**

Linear bound morphemes

infixes are inserted into the root

English	"exp	letive	infixa	ation"

abso-**friggin**-lutely

fan-**bloody**-tastic

Katu (Mon-Khmer)*			
gap	'to cut'	g- an -ap	'scissors'
panh	'to shoot'	p- an -anh	'crossbow'
piih	'to sweep'	p- an -iih	'broom'

*Moravcsik 2013. Introducing language typology. CUP.

Linear bound morphemes

circumfixes
 combination of prefix + suffix

Russian	
3dat ^j	'to wait'
do- ʒdat ^j - s^ja	'to wait for something with success'
up.to-wait.INF-REFI	-
* do- ʒdat ^j	
*ʒdat ^j -s ^j a	

INF = infinitive; REFL = reflexive

"Discontinuous" morphemes imply prefixes/suffixes

There are no languages that employ only infixes or only circumfixes.

If a language has infixes and/or circumfixes, it also has prefixes and/or suffixes.¹

- ➢ infixes are often analyzed as a subtype of prefix/suffix²
- circumfixes are usually a combination of independently used prefix
 + suffix

Russian	
do- ʒdat ^j -s ^j a	'to wait for something with success'
do- n ^j est ^j i	'to successfully carry to destination'
mit ^j - s^ja	'to wash oneself'

¹Greenberg, J. H. (Ed.). (1966). *Universals of language* (2nd ed.). M.I.T. Press. ²Yu, Alan C.L. (2007) A natural history of infixation. OUP.

Infixes as prefixes or affixes

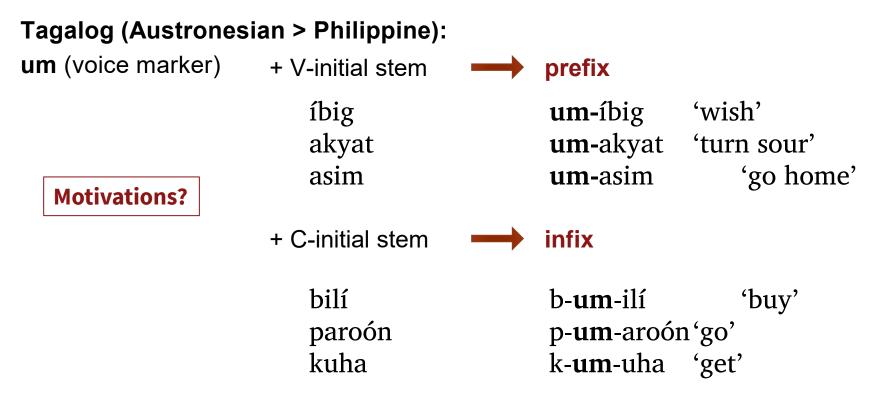
Typologically, infixes are likely to be edge-oriented

Distribution of edge-oriented and prominence-driven infixes

	Fixed	RED	Total	
Edge-oriented	94	43	137	89%
Prominence-driven	6	11	17	
Total			154	

Yu, Alan C.L. (2007) A natural history of infixation. OUP.

Example: phonologically conditioned infixation



Crowhurst, Megan J. (1998) Um Infixation and Prefixation in Toba Batak. Language 74(3), 590-604 Stanford University



Toba Batak is a related language to Tagalog and has a similar **um** affix.

- Define the conditions when **um** is 3. What could be the motivations for 1 a prefix and when it is an infix. the observed patterns?
- 2. Identify the rules for how **um** looks on the surface.

SET 1		
deŋgán	d- um -éŋgan	'good'
tíbbo	t- um- íbbo	'tall'
dzóu	d͡ ʒ-um- óu	'call'
səlsəl	s- um- ólsəl	'regret'
rəá	r- um -óa	'ugly'
gokan	g- um -okán	'full'
lás	l- um- ás	'hot'

SET 2		
padditá	up-paddíta	a 'preach'
bege	ub- bége	'hear'
maɔl	um-m	iáəl
'diff	icult'	
nɛaŋ	un-né	aŋ 'light'
SET 3	uŋ -ŋáli	'cold/colder'
ulí	umm- úli	'beautiful'
arga	umm-árga	expensive'
εlat	umm-ɛlat	
'env	vious' s	tanford University