

# Introduction

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**Morphology and its demarcations: Selected papers from the 11th Morphology meeting, Vienna, February 2004**

**Edited by Wolfgang U. Dressler, Dieter Kastovsky, Oskar E. Pfeiffer and Franz Rainer**

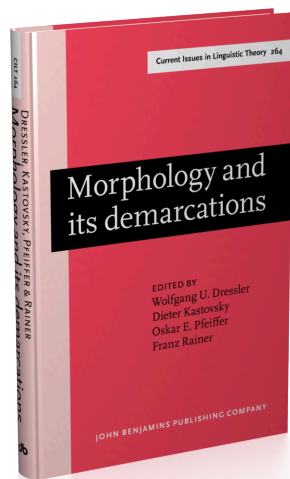
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# Introduction\*

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This volume contains selected papers from the International Morphology Meeting held in Vienna from February 14 to 18, 2004, which was the eleventh of a series of morphology conferences held alternatively in Austria and Hungary. This volume includes those papers which addressed the main topic of the meeting<sup>1</sup> and which were selected by an international reading committee. This topic concerns external and internal demarcations of morphology.

Several authors deal with the *external demarcation between syntax and morphology*:

David S. Rood claims, with his concept of “syntactic morphology”, that the incorporating-polysynthetic language Wichita possesses several instances of affixes which would be expected, in typologically different languages, to either belong to noun inflection or be constituents of noun phrases, but are in fact bound morphemes of Wichita verbs.

Michael Cysouw surveys, in many typologically and genetically unrelated languages, so-called ditropic clitics, i.e. clitics which exhibit a mismatch between their semantic and positional relations to their neighbours, i.e. host and clitic do not form a semantic unit. Such paradoxical constellations differ both from morphological arrangements of affixes and from syntactic positions of corresponding non-clitic constituents.

Jasmina Milićević devotes her study to standard Serbian future tense markers and argues that they are clitics rather than affixes, in spite of the fact that they share some properties with the latter. The frame-work used is the Meaning–Text model and the methodology of using lexical, morphological, syntactic and morphonological criteria.

Corrien Blom describes those particle verbs of Dutch which can be identified as separable complex verbs. By combining this synchronic with a diachronic perspective, she concludes that most of them exhibit a stronger degree

of grammaticalization than of lexicalization. Thus she can locate different types of particle verbs in different slots of the syntax–morphology continuum.

Andrés **Enrique-Arias** argues that the restriction in mobility which Old Spanish unstressed object pronouns have suffered in the historical process of cliticization and morphologization was due to two main factors, namely the frequency of the sequence pronoun + finite verb in Old Spanish and the fact that this order allowed to preserve the most natural prosodic pattern in Spanish, while no correlation has been found with word order typology.

Bernd **Heine** and Christa **König** discuss grammaticalization and claim that grammatical hybrids of the African language !Xun do not allow a clear-cut distinction between verb serialization, compounding and derivation. This is inserted into the typological and diachronic perspective of chains of grammaticalization.

In contrast to theoretical discussions in previous literature on internal boundaries within morphology, which have concentrated on the boundary between inflection and derivation, this volume attributes equal importance to *demarcations between compounding and derivation*:

Laurie **Bauer** deals with this borderline and concludes that, although it is permeable, it nevertheless allows a certain demarcation of the two domains on the basis of the independence of the involved elements. This is demonstrated by discussing instances of diachronic shifts from compounding to affixation and from affixation to word-status of the affixes resulting in compounds. Other related topics deal with the ambivalent status of synthetic compounds, unique morphs, and neo-classical compounds.

Geert **Booij** discusses compounding vs. prefixes, prefixoids, suffixes and suffixoids and argues within the framework of construction morphology that compounding and affixal derivation differ in degrees of abstractness of their construction schemas. Thus he rejects Steven Anderson's dichotomic approach of A-morphous Morphology.

Sergio **Scalise**, Antonietta **Bisetto** and Emiliano **Guevara** set out to show that selection is not exclusively found in suffixation but also in compounding, and that both in suffixation and compounding it is the head which selects the base. Despite these similarities, they claim to have identified differences with respect to how selection works in suffixation and compounding, and even within different types of compounding.

Pavol **Štekauer**, on the basis of a cognitive-onomasiological approach to word-formation, which regards the latter basically as an act of naming, argues that there are no principled differences between compounding and affixation, nor between prefixation and suffixation. This follows from his assumption

that there is a general principle of Morpheme-to-Seme Assignment and the identification of the head with the “onomasiological base”, regardless of its position. His analysis thus is basically semantic-referential rather than formal-morphological.

Bernard **Fradin** shows that the French suffix *-eur* places “strong and precise” restrictions on its verbal base, whereas French V+N compounds allow any semantically plausible instantiation of V. This difference is argued to follow in a principled way from general differences between derivation and compounding.

Dany **Amiot**’s contribution is dedicated to the borderline between composition and prefixation in French. The author analyses eight formatives that appear both in compounding and in prefixation and concludes that “[t]here is a continuum between elements which have to be considered real prefixes and others that are still prepositions”.

A wide variety of phenomena regarding commonalities and *demarkations of inflection and derivation* is discussed in the following contributions:

Davide **Ricca** presents evidence that cumulative exponence, a common phenomenon in inflection, may also involve derivational categories. The fact that cumulative exponence is rare in derivation is explained as a consequence of more general properties such as the scarcity of semantically relevant derivational categories and their far weaker paradigmatic structuring.

Maria-Rosa **Lloret** focuses on the evidence of phonological (and morphonological) patterns which are distinct for inflection and derivation and for nominal vs. verbal inflection in regional variants of Oromo and Catalan and accounts for them within the framework of Optimality Theory.

Stela **Manova** modifies differentiation criteria for assigning the transitional categories of diminutive formation, gender change (from masculine to feminine) and imperfectivization in Bulgarian, Russian and Serbian dominantly to either inflection or derivation (only in the case of diminutives).

Sergey **Say** investigates so-called reflexive Russian *sja*-verbs and develops a complex picture of the interplay between derivation and inflection in different subtypes of these “anti-passive” verbs.

Rok **Žaucer** studies verbal prefixes in Slovenian and other Slavic languages to which he assigns an event value of state. They have derivational properties when they express, e.g., directionality or attenuation, but have inflectional characteristics of verbal aspect formation as well.

Gregory T. **Stump** studies Sanskrit causatives and explains why criteria arguing for a derivational status are insufficient, whereas the criteria of paradigmatic opposition and of uniformity entail that the causative suffix *-aya-* (or *-ay-a-*) is a mark of inflection-class membership.

## Notes

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– Several papers on other morphological topics, are published in *Folia Linguistica* 38, 3–4 (2004) [Paolo Acquaviva, Martin Maiden, Ingo Plag] and in the *Yearbook of Morphology* 2004.