Determining morphological relations: the Navajo verbal complex -1

Joyce McDonough Department of Linguistics University of Rochester The Paris Lectures, April-May 2016 ...geographical speciation makes a tidy picture. It has a core of truth, but real evolution is messier.

...so messy that a faithful description of real cases converts the science into natural history, in which the unique details are as important as the principles by which they are explained.

E O Wilson, The Diversity of Life.

The big goal: describe the details of the morphology of the *Athabaskan languages* via a working model of the verbal complex organization of the lexicon of speakers.

- Composition of the verbal complex
 - units of (re)combination
- Organization of the lexicon
 - Examine relations between words in dense neighborhoods
 - Where meaning resides?
- Framework: *Word and Pattern* morphology

1. Why Athabaskan?

2. Why Word and Pattern framework?

Why Athabaskan?

Represent a classic example of 'polysynthesis' def. resistant to 'morpheme' analysis

by convention uses flat, extensive 'position-class template' invented for comparative analyses reassembly governed by post-hoc rewrite rules

Lexicon

dense neighborhoods of 'similar' words closed class includes nouns and stems

Why Athabaskan?

the Athabaskan languages are closely related with strikingly similar morphology also highly complex spread out over a large section of North America

resistant to change, very stable small communities

do not borrow, no loans words

Navajo is the best documented, largest population

2 Why Word and Pattern framework?

Words (not morphemes) are fundamental objects of analysis, even in highly complex verbal systems.

This approach is "**paradigmatic**, because it identifies (sets of) patterns that whole words participate in, and **configurative**, because, while the meaning of a word form is not necessarily construed as a straightforward composition of individually meaningful parts, the meaning of the whole is associated with **reliable arrangements of its constitutive elements**."

Ackerman and Malouf 2013

reliable arrangements of its constitutive elements.

"complex surface word forms [represent] types of configurations of elements ...

whole surface word forms as elements in a network of related word forms.

As observed by Matthews (1991:204): 'words are not merely wholes made up of parts, but are themselves construable as parts with respect to systems of forms in which they participate'"

Ackerman and Malouf 2013

Word & Pattern Morphology

- Words are the basic units in the lexicon
- Inflected words are organized into paradigms
- Lexemes enter into paradigmatic relationships with each other.

Inflectional Paradigms *(InflP)* set of inflected variants of a word formed through a regular sets of alternations.

InflP a fundamental building block of the lexicon fundamental to the organization of the lexicon in polysynthetic languages

cf Halle & Marantz, 1993; Lieber, 1992

Athabaskan words

reside in very dense neighborhoods of related forms

forms may different in small phonetic details details link forms to each other identify constituents in the verbal complex

Closed lexicons

1 The Navajo lexicon

Verbal morphology and the Navajo problem

- 2 Navajo verbal complex: Phonetic and phonological patterns
- 3 **Working model**: The (re)combinatorial elements and the organization of words
- 4 The Closed Lexicon

1 The Navajo lexicon

- Athabaskan languages and people
- 'Polysynthesis' and morphological complexity in NA
- Word models
 - Definitions of terms
 - IA/P 'templates'
 - Word and Pattern models
- The Navajo problem

the People

the People

Athabaskan or Dene (the People) are traditional hunter/gathers homeland in northwestern NA. time depth of at least 2-3 millennium

Dene communities spread across boreal forests (tiaga) an inaccessible and inhospitable landscape

Communities remote but viable with historically very small populations.



Dene-Yenesian connection



Ket & Dene–Yenesian hypothesis

Edward J. Vajda, (2010) "Siberian Link with Na-Dene Languages". *The Dene–Yeniseian Connection*, ed. by J. Kari and B. Potter, 33-99. *Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska*, vol. 5. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Fairbanks, Department of Anthropology.

"the first demonstration of a genealogical link between Old World and New World language families that meets the standards of traditional comparative-historical linguistics"

Jared Diamond (2011) Linguistics: Deep relationships between languages. Nature 476, 291–292



Gamètì

Yellowknife

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Tour Guide

Google Earth

Image © 2016 DigitalGlobe Image Landsat / Copernicus

Google Earth





http://bit.ly/2oNzTRK

APRIL 8, 2017 | BEHCHOKÒ, WHATÌ, GAMÈTÌ, WEKWEÈTÌ | LANDS

TŁĮCHQ WINTER ROADS CLOSED

Please be advised the Tłįchǫ Winter Road System is now **Closed for the Season** due to overflow and flooding on Marian Lake.

Thanks to our contractors and maintenance crews who did a great job again this year.

Michael Conway

Regional Superintendent

the Athabaskan people in the US

Pacific Coastal (mostly not spoken) Hupa, Kato

Apachean - Arizona and New Mexico Apache languages Jicarilla, Chiracahua, White Mountain *Navajo*



Naabeehó Bináhásdzo 'Navajo Nations'



the language family

Athabaskan (Dene) language family

Closely related group of languages strikingly similar morphology and phonetic structure

Morphologically complex, 'polysynthetic' w unusual properties

Primarily verbal, noun poor nouns and verb stems are closed class 'bricolage' verbal complex formation

Stable over considerable time depth, equally resistant to change

Edward Sapir (1884 - 1939)

"The languages of the Athabaskan group are singularly conservative in form as well as in phonetics and vocabulary in spite of their enormous and irregular spread."

"They are singularly resistant to exotic influence"

The Athabaskan (Dene) language family

5 groups

non tone:

Alaska, Yukon, Pacific Northwest

tone:

interior (Mackenzie River Basin across to Hudson Bay) Apachean (American Southwest - Navajo and Apache)

The Navajo Language: A Grammar and Colloquial Dictionary

Robert Young and William Morgan 1942, 1980, **1987**, 1992 -60 years of work

World-class grammar and dictionary extensive paradigm charts organization of a complex aspectual system dictionary of fully inflected whole word forms

The mental lexicon of a polysynthetic language

polysynthesis in NA

polysynthesis in NA

'Polysynthesis'

complex and rich verbal morphology tense, aspect, subaspect, agreement, incorporation implicates structural complexity

indicates a system not easily separable into morphemes no easy correspondence form and meaning

contrast 'aggluntinative' more easily separable morphemes

polysynthesis in NA

'Polysynthesis' in NA over 300 distinct languages up to 30 different language families

'no true analytic languages north of Rio Grande' *Mithun 2000*



kaipiallrilliniuk kaig-piar-llru-llini-u-k be.hungry-really-PAST-apparently-Indicative-they.two 'the two of them were apparently really hungry"
Iroquoian

Mohawk

wa'tionkwatonhontsahriten' wa'-t'ionkw-at-onhonts-hri-ht-en-' factual-change.of.state-they/me-(my)own.earth-broken-cause-for-perfective

'they caused my earth to be broken up for me' = they plowed my garden *Mithun 2000*

Mohawk (Iroquoian)

Otsì:tsa' o-tsi?tsy-a? NEUTER-flower/wine-NOUN.SUFFIX 'I (liquid-) bought some wine.' wakhnekahní:non wa?-k-hnek-a-hninų-? FACTUAL-2SG.AGENT-liquid-EPENTHETIC-buy-PRF

Mithun, 112

Tewanine'kara'wánion's te-w-anine'kara'wa-nion'-s DUALIC-NEUTER.AGENT-lightning.strike-DISTRIBUTIVE-IMPRF 'Lightning was striking all over.'

Mithun, 89

Wa'enontarónnion' wa'-e-nontar-a-r-onnion' FACTUAL-FEMININE.AGENT-soup-DUALIC-EPENTHETIC-put.in-DISTRIBUTIVE 'She kept serving the soup (one ladleful at a time to each diner).'

Mithun, 90

Oneida (Iroquoian)

wahiyate?slehtaníhahsé? 'I borrowed a car from him.' Mithun 871 kate?wahlutákwas 'I'm taking meat out of the oven.' Mithun 876

knitstakwalanawátha? 'I'm soaking dirty clothes.' Mithun 593

Athabaskan

Navajo Young and Morgan 1987

náhidiishmááz ná-hi-di-i-ø-sh-ø-mááz around-seriative-inceptive-transitional-imp-Subj-cl-Stem

'I rolled it over'

North Slavey (K Rice 1987)

gódákǫ?ededadhé 'the door opened again' Rice, 733

k'ínayįht'uh 's/he swung his/her arms around, pushed things around' Rice, 894

dádéhsha nį beghárayuhdá gó? 3.is.how.tall COMP 1sg.opt.see.3.again FUT 'I will see how tall she is' Rice, 1186

Jicarilla Apache (Phone et al, 1999)

hnkeenádaazéí 'the camps began to move' 363

ndáidnzhainá 'he picked it up'

570

dásidíts'ee'éná 'that you hear me well' 214

Hupa

je'wiłqiwh 'he pulled it apart where it was forked' 5; under 'apart'

nina'siwe:nik 'he has put his arm around you' 5; under 'arm around, put'

chwing-me'do:wehsle' 'he got hungry' 47; under 'hungry'

Carrier (Babine) Morice 1935

yekhanthîzthai 'he went in search of him' Vol. 2, 520

rheyenthûtsêł 'they will cut it down with an axe' Vol. 2, 530

łtṣĕnadîskhê 'he stood erect again'

Vol. 2, 521

áhodidiniishtłóóh a-ho-di-di-ni-ish-ø-tłóóh I'm relaxed (nervous tension), I'm overcoming anxiety

áhodiyiilkah á-ho-di-yi-i-l-kah we're dilly-dallying along (3 or more subjects).

bidádinish'aah bi-dá-di-ni-ish-ø-'aah I close it with it, to block the entranceway or hole with it (a rock)

ch'íhi'niilchééh ch'í-hi-'a-ni-i-l-chééh we run out and come into view, running (2 actors) *áhodidiniish<u>tłóóh</u> Navajo a-ho-di-di-ni-ish-ø-tłóóh* I'm relaxed (nervous tension), I'm overcoming (my) anxiety

áhodiyiil<u>kah</u> á-ho-di-yi-i-l-kah we're dilly-dallying along with them (3 or more subjects).

bidádinish<u>'aah</u> bi-dá-di-ni-ish-ø-'aah I close it with it, to block the entranceway or hole with it (a rock)

ch'íhi'niil<u>chééh</u> ch'í-hi- 'a-ni-i-l-chééh we run out and come into view, running (2 actors)

STEMS

áhodidiniish- ł-tłóóh

-тьоон loosen something taut

áhodiyii- I-kah

-KAH walk moving slowly 3+

bidádinish- ø-'aah

- 'AAH handle a round solid object

ch'íhi'nii- I-chééh

-CHEEH move rapidly 2+

VALENCE = 'CLASSIFIERS' PREFIXES TO STEM

áhodidiniish- ł-tłóóh

-TLOOH loosen something taut

áhodiyii- I-kah

-KAH walk moving slowly 3+

bidádinish- ø-'aah

- 'AAH handle a round solid object

ch'íhi'nii- I-chééh

-CHEEH move rapidly 2+

áhodidiniishtłóóhNavajoá-ho-di-di.ni-ish-ø-tłóóh1c-4-4-6.6-7-8-9-stem1c-4-4-6.6-7-8-9-stemrefl-space-self-prolongative-transitional-Mode-Sub-Vl-'slacken'I'm relaxed (nervous tension), I'm overcoming (my) anxiety
YMD:284

ch'ihi'niilchééh hi' = 'ahi di- ?
ch'i-'a.hi-ni-i-l-chééh
1b-6a.5.5-7-7-8-9-stem
out horizontally-reciprocative.3rd-extended-Mode-3rdsuVl-'chase'
we run out and come into view, running (2 actors)

YMD:284

ádi refl? = áhodi?

The verbal complex

- IA Template
- Issues w template examples of words and glosses

Q's

- what are the forms of combination
- how are they organized
- how productive are they
- what can they express
 - meanings & speakers access to meaning
- can we predict (produce) real forms
 - learnable?
- Model of the Dene verbal complex

what is Item-and-Arrangement (IA)/ Item-and-Process (IP) morphology?

What is templatic morphology?

Implications of IA/IP models of morphology

linear structure of slots or positions morphemes are assigned to slots slots handle the ordering of morphemes

- compositionality and transparency
- existence of separable morphemes

how does an IA or IP template work?

ABCDE A-B-C-D-E

A - B - C - D - E

Prosthetic ordering devices

ABaseCDE A-Base-C-D-E

A - Base - C - D - E

Base of attachment: prefixes (A) and suffixes (C-D-E)

ABaseD

A - Base - D

Ordering devices

BaseCD Base-C-D hopelessness

Base C - D

hope - less- ness

Ordering devices

> *BaseDC Base-*D-C * hope-ness-less **Base C D** hope - less- ness

Ordering devices

ABCDE A-Base-C-D-E

A - Base - C - D - E

Base of attachment: prefixes (...A) and suffixes (C....)

Problems of IA/IP models -of morphology

- ill-defined terms 'morpheme'
- dependence on fully inflected forms
- for reconstruction
- supported by rewrite rules
- cannot predict forms
- does not address relations among words
- does not address organization of lexicon
 - conjugation classes
 - learnability

The Athabaskan template -Navajo

Position class template for Navajo verb Hoijer 1967; Young and Morgan 1987)

KEY (from left to right):

0	Direct object of postposition.	
	Possessive prefix with nouns.	
Ia	Null postposition	
Ib	Adverbial – Thematic ('postpositional stems')	
Ic	(Reflexive)	Disjunct
Id	(Reversionary)	
Ie	(Semeliterative)	
II	(Iterative)	
III	(Distributive Plural)	

IV	Direct Object Pronouns							
V	Deictic Subject Pronouns							
VIa	Adverbial – Thematic							
VIb	Adverbial – Thematic							
VIc	Transitional / Semelfactive Aspect markers	Conjunct						
VII	Modal - Aspectival Conjugation markers							
VIII	Subject Pronouns							
IX	'Classifier'							

X Stem Stem

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shi- shi-	cover , meeting above, excess about, in against into inside of with , away from , through h, attaching for, after , on, above , following h, against 'aga, around on, on top on, upon e-, in hand extend over , around encircling beside , into i-, through	'atí-, harm 'atsí-, decision 'ááh-, 'áál-, mean cha-, darkness ch'aa-, visiting ch'i-, out horiz. cho-, use dá-, close, seal da-, cover di- ⁷ , fire dzi-, into space dzídza-, into fire ha-, entire ha-, thematic ha-, for, after	<pre>30. yir, him, him, her, it, them 3a. ha-/ ho-, him, her, one, people them 3i. 'a-, some- one, some- one, some- thing 1. nihi- us 2. nihi- you Reflexive 'ádi-, self Reciprocal 'ahi-, each other, conver- ging, join-</pre>	self		t more time, s once n again		(de-), distri- butive	 shi-, me sh-, me ni-, n-, you bi-, b-, ß, him, her it, them it, them a. ha-, ho- hw-, him her, one people, them 'a- ('- 'e-, 'i- 'o-), in- definite someone, some- thing ha-, ho- hw-, area, space, imperso- nal it, "things" nihi-, us nihi-, nia-, you (2 or more) Reflexive: -di-, 'a- di-, self Reciprocal: 'ahi-, 'ai hi- ('ah-,' 'ahi-), each other onther 	tley 'a-, in- definit, some- thing -'(a)-fi unspeci- fied a- gent (Agent- ive Pas- sive) ha-/ho- hw-, space, area, imper- sonal it, "things"	di-2 di-3 di-4 di-5 di-6 di-9 di-10 di-11 di-12 di-12 di-13 di-14 dzi (+) -z-, -zh-) hi-1 ji- li-(- 1 si-2 si-3 yi-2 yi-3 yi-5 yi- (u-)	di-1 (in- beptive)	ni-2 ni-3 ni-4 ni-5 ni-6 ni-9 nf-1 nf-2	vi-12	-i- (-'-), Perfective 'lode Marker yi-, Progres- sive Mode 'Marker vi-, Modal-As- pectival (Completive Perfective) ni-7, Modal- Aspectival (Terminative Imperfective Si-, Modal-As- pectival (Stative Im- perfective Si-, Modal-As- pectival (Stative Im- perfective) -ó- (-o-, wo-, wo-), Opta- tive Mode Marker	1sh- -ß- 2ni-, 3ß- 1ii(d). 2ro(h)- -oo-	-Ø- -2- -d- -1-	() -3 E1 3	THE VERB PREFIX POSITIONS

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sh-	-aah, alongside	'ada-, downward 'ahá-, in half			f .	: I			2. ni-, n-		di-4	ceptive	ni-5	i i		2ni-,	-d-	
- **	-áá-, passing by -ááh, passing by	'a'á-, into hole			1	}			you	he, she ore,	di-5	}	ni-6		vi-, Progres-	-´-,		i –
ni-	-dan, passing by								3.bi-,b-,Ø,		d1-6 d1-8		ni-8		sive Mode Marker	-Ø-	-1-	
2. ní-	-ba', waiting for	'atí-, har⊐	1. shi-,		ná∸(né		ná-(né		him, her		9.44	l I	ni-9		Harker	3Ø-		
	-cha-, bunched up	'atsi-, decision	the the	self	ni-	nááná-		(de-),	it, the⊒		di-10		nf-1 nf-2	ł	vi-, Modal-As-	1ii(d)-		
bi-	-ch'ááh, obstruct	'ááh-,'áál-, mean	a		return-	repeat-	n-, rene-	distri- butive	30. yi-, y-	l'a-, in-	di-11	1	nie-		pectival			E
3. bí-	-ch'i', toward	cha-, darkness	2. ni-, you		ing bac		tition	plural-	him, her	definit	di-12	1			(Completive	2o(h)-		E .
b-		ch'aa-, visiting	100		ito a	time,		ity =	it, them	someone	di-13	í			Perfective)	-00-		
yi-		ch'i-, out horiz.	3.1.,	ł	previou	s once		each]]	sone-	dí-14				ni-7, Modal-	1		E
o. yí-	-da-, cover	cho-, use dá-, close, seal	him,		locatio	h again		of	3a. ha-,ho- hw-, him						Aspectival			
У~	-dááh, meeting -de, above, caet	dan aver seat	SIO		pr sta-			three	har as	ete	dzi (†i	ta	400	0.74	(Terminative	h		
ha-	-é-, about, in	d - , ii e	NH)	112	tu.)r		unsee	2.4		re	H	Or Kerke			
há-	-é-, about, in -i-, against -iih, into	dzi ; into space	pend.	11 4		r.y			Cirem	fieu #		u				100		Ł.
		dtidta." Tuco tite					-		3i. 'a- ('-	gent	hi-2 hi-2	1	1		yi→, Peg-ele-			t –
hw	-ii', inside of	ha-, up out	30. yi-, hím,		i i				'e-, 'i-	[(Agent-	h5-1	1			ment with Ø-			1
'a-	-il, with	ha-, entire	her,		ł	1 1		I i	'o-),in-	ive Pas-	'i-	£	l		Imperfective	l l		ŝ
i. °á-		ha-, thematic	it,	i i	1	! I		! '	definite	sive)	ji-	1	[si-, Modal-As-			
*=	-ghá-, through -ghááh, attaching	há-, for, after	them	i i	1			{	someone,	ha-/ho-/		1	ł		pectival			1 1
nihi-		hasht'e-, ready				1			SODG-	hw-,	ži- (-				(Stative Im-			
1. nihi-		la-, sickly	3a, ha-/		1	1			i thing	space,	1-)	i			perfective &			
nih-	-káá', on, above	kéé-, thematic	ho-,	1	Į.	ļ		2	3s. ha-,ho-	, area,	si-1		1		Perfectivel			3
nihi-	-kee', following	ki-, sloping	him,	1	i l				hw-,	imper-	S1- 3				-ó- (-o-, wó-,			
2. nihi-	-k°ááh, against	ko-, thus	her,	1	i	1			area,	sonal	si-				wo-), Opta-			
nih-	-k'ee'ąą, around	k'é-, friendship	people	ł	1	i			space,	it,	1	í	•		tive Mode Marker			
eflexive:		k'e-, undo, untie	6 h a m						imperso-	"things"	y_{i-2} y_{i-3}		1		narker			
'á-, 'ádí	-k'í, on, upon 1-lá-, beyond	k'i-, them. (plant) k'i-, straight		•	1				nal it, "things"	•								
		k'í-, sever	3i. 'a-,	1	i						yi-4		ł					
'ah-, 'al		li-, cheating	some-		ļ				1. nihi-		yi-5 yi-6			1				
'alh-	-na-, around	na-, around about	one,						nih-,us									
'ahil-	-ná-, encircling	na-, across	some-	1					2. nihi-,		yi-							
'alhil-	-ná, beside	na-, downward	thing		i				nih-,		(w~}							
	-ni-, into	ná-, encircling	1. nihi-	 					you (2									
		ná-, thematic	- uo	ſ					or more)]				ł –
	-miilt'a-, obstac -'oh, less	na-, up, upward ná-, repetition							Reflexive:					í l				I
	-tá-, grazing	ni ⁻¹ , cessative-	2. nihi-						-di-, 'a-				1					I
	-tah, among	niki-, start	you			1 1			di-, self				1					I
	-taa-, among	niki-, surface	Deflesion															
	-ta', between	ntsi-, think	Reflexive 'ádi-,						Reciprocal:									
	-t'a-, recess	shó-, acquire	self						'ahi-, 'al									
	-t'ah, recess	so-, prayer							hi- ('ah-,									
	-t'ááh, midst	ta-, mix	Reciprocal						<pre>'alh-}, each other</pre>									
	-tis, over -tsi, first	tá-, diversative	'ahi-,						each other	'								
	-ts'aa, from	tá-, wash tí-, hurt, harm	each		1				other									
	-ts'áá', from	ti'-, suffer	other,		1													
	-ts'á-, from	tsi'-, zigzag	conver-	1														
	-ya-, down	tsistl'a-, corner	ging,										1					
	-yah, under	wó'ą-, over edge	join- ing					i	1									
	-yaa, under	ya-, vertical	61FJ	Ļ	1	1			1			1						

positions: 7

6a, b, c, 3, 2, 1b, d, e

Modes Imperfective Perfective Usitative Iterative Progressive Future Optative

Aspects Momentaneous Continuative Durative Repetitive Conclusive Semelfactive Distributive Diversative Reversative Conative Transitional Cursive

Subaspects Inceptive Inchoative Semeliterative Serative Stative Completive Terminative Terminal Prolongative Reversionary

Jay Williams, 2004 -from Young and Morgan 1987

Position class template for Navajo verb Hoijer 1967; Young and Morgan 1987)

KEY (from left to right):

0	Direct object of postposition.	
	Possessive prefix with nouns.	
Ia	Null postposition	
Ib	Adverbial – Thematic ('postpositional stems')	
Ic	(Reflexive)	Disjunct
Id	(Reversionary)	
Ie	(Semeliterative)	
II	(Iterative)	
III	(Distributive Plural)	

IV	Direct Object Pronouns							
V	Deictic Subject Pronouns							
VIa	Adverbial – Thematic							
VIb	Adverbial – Thematic							
VIc	Transitional / Semelfactive Aspect markers	Conjunct						
VII	Modal - Aspectival Conjugation markers							
VIII	Subject Pronouns							
IX	'Classifier'							

X Stem Stem

áhodidiniishtłóóhNavajoá-ho-di-di.ni-ish-ø-tłóóh1c-4-4-6.6-7-8-9-stem1c-4-4-6.6-7-8-9-stemrefl-space-self-prolongative-transitional-Mode-Sub-Vl-'slacken'I'm relaxed (nervous tension), I'm overcoming (my) anxiety
YMD:284

ch'ihi'niilchééh hi' = 'ahi di- ?
ch'i-'a.hi-ni-i-l-chééh
1b-6a.5.5-7-7-8-9-stem
out horizontally-reciprocative.3rd-extended-Mode-3rdsuVl-'chase'
we run out and come into view, running (2 actors)

YMD:284

ádi refl? = áhodi?

Athabaskan verbal complex

is this a verb?

in order to provide a realistic, parsable model reduce the parameters of morphological variation provide more transparency make some attempt at realistic word formation

Task: Identify

- the constituent elements in the verbal complex
- their arrangements
- combinatorial operations
- the patterns in the lexicon

Summary: Empirical / methodological motivations

- Template has never worked as a morphological model
- Hargus, 1987; Randjoda, 1989; McDonough 1990, 1999, 2003 Kari 1990
- Morpheme based model is derived from fully inflected forms. and refers specifically to a given form to govern recomposition
- Over- and under- generates forms
 - 17 23 dimensions of variation
 - no prediction of the lexical patterns
 - declarative constraints
- Position classes are not formal devices
 - invented as a comparative device
 - unmotivated
 - prosthetic


Analytic - simple words without 'morphology'
Aggluntinative - obvious separable morphemes
 'strung out like beads'
Polysynthetic - units (words) with complex structures
 w complex meanings - not easily separable

a paradigm = a set of inflected variants of a word form via exponence

paradigms are formed through a regular or a predictable pattern of alternations among words

fundamental to the organization of the lexicon

Definitions

- 'Morpheme'
- = sound meaning unit?
- = smallest unit of meaning?

Definitions

<u>'Morpheme'</u>

handy term for a sublexical unit of many kinds no formal definition refers to no formal entity not sound or meaning

thus not well-defined not a combinatorial unit/element in a grammar

Definitions

1. LEXEME

- 2. Word form vs word class/family
- 3. Inflection vs derivation Compounding
- 4. Paradigm Economy

LEXEME vs Word form/token

- **LEXEME** abstract dictionary **ENTRY** (CAPS)
- Word form actual spoken form, physical signal
- **Paradigm** A set of words that belong to the same LEXEME aka *inflectional morphology*
- Word family Set of related LEXEMES

Hapselmath & Sims, 2012

Word families (= groups of LEXEMES)

- READ READABLE UNREADABLE READER REREAD
- CAT CATTY CATLIKE CATNESS
- DIVINE DIVINITY DIVINENESS DIVINING

LEXEMES in a Word Family are less 'predictable' than related word forms in an inflectional paradigm

Hapselmath & Sims, 2012; Aronoff and Fudeman, 2010

Derivation = relations between LEXEMES of a word family aka: *LEXEME formation*

compounding is a type of LEXEME formation

Inflection = relation between word forms of a LEXEME aka: *word form formation*

Hapselmath & Sims, 2012

Inflectional Paradigm Infl P a paradigm

Inflectional Classes Infl Cl

a LEXEME's Infl Ps

i.e. conjugations, declensions, noun and gender classes

Hapselmath & Sims, 2012

	sing	plural	tense/mode
1	porto I carry	portamus	present
2	portas	portatis	
3	portat	portant	
3	porta:bat he was carrying	portabant	imperfect
3	porta:vit he carried	porta:ve:runt	perfect

LEXEME = PORTO

	sing	plural	tense/mode
1	<i>port-o</i> I carry	port-amus	present
2	port-as	port-atis	
3	port-at	port-ant	
3	port-a:bat he was carrying	port-abant	imperfect
3	port-a:vit he carried	port-a:ve:runt	perfect

	sing	plural	tense/mode
1	port-o I carry	port-amus	present
2	port-as	port-atis	
3	port-at	port-ant	
3	port-a:bat he was carrying	port-abant	imperfect
3	port-a:vit he carried	port-a:ve:runt	perfect

	sing	plural	tense/mode
1	porto I carry	port a- mus	present
2	port- a- s	port- a- tis	
3	port- a- t	port- a- nt	
3	port-a-:bat he was carrying	port- a- bant	imperfect
3	port- a- :vit he carried	port- a- :ve:runt	perfect

InflClass (InfC)

all words that participate in the same inflectional pattern

1st conjugation: amó, amáre, amáví, amátum júdicó, júdicáre, júdicáví, júdicátum nárró, nárráre, nárráví, nárrátum

2nd conjugation habeo, habere, habui, habitus.

3rd – 4th conjugations

the Athabaskan verb complex

Three morphological domains in the Dene verb:

```
[Disjunct # Conjunct - Stem]<sub>WdVerb</sub>
```

The positions are numbered by roman numerals in Y&M.

Disjunct		Conjunct	Stem
0 Ib Ia Ic Id II III	IV V VIa VIb VIc	VII VIII IX	Χ

Null morphemes

Three morphological domains in the Dene verb:

```
[Disjunct # Conjunct - Stem]<sub>WdVerb</sub>
```

The positions are numbered by roman numerals in Y&M.

Disjunct						Con	ijur	nct	Stem
0 1a 1b 1c 1d 2 3	4	5	6a	6b	6c	7	8	9	Χ
	Null morphemes								

1 bíni'estsih 3rd subj bí-ni-'a-si-ø-ł-tsih si-ø → es 3rd 1B-1B-5-7-8-9-STEM 18-18-5-7-8-9-STEM 18-18-5-7-8-9-STEM

To peg down an object, like a hide, to dry on a wall or against the floor (*i*-tsih to cause to stick, (using) a slender object)
(bíni' -> bí-ni-'a 'refers to the action of penetrating the surface of some inanimate thing (-'a), without passing entirely through'

bíni'séłtsih 1st : bí-ni-'a**-si-ish-**ł-tsih IB-IB-5-**7- 8**- 9-STEM

1st subj

<u>si -ish \rightarrow sé 1st</u>

2 *bí-ni-'a-**ni-**ish-ł-tsih ? **ni-ish ? does not exist** IB-IB- 5- **7-** 8-9-STEM

> position 9 sometimes deletes what's a ø (null) morpheme? how changeable are the morphemes how 'real are the morphemes

bíni'sétsih



To peg down an object, like a hide, to dry on a wall or against the floor
(ł-tsih to cause to stick, (using) a slender object)
(bíni' -> bí-ni-'a 'refers to the action of penetrating the surface of some inanimate thing (-'a), without passing entirely through'

béégashii bikági bíni séltsih
béégashii bi-kági bíni-'a –[es + l.tsih]
cow 3rd-hide 'against it'-'surface'-S.PVF.3S + VL.'cause to stick'

'he pegged down the cow hide'

bíni'séłtsih



To peg down an object, like a hide, to dry on a wall or against the floor
(ł-tsih to cause to stick, (using) a slender object)
(bíni' -> bí-ni-'a 'refers to the action of penetrating the surface of some inanimate thing (-'a), without passing entirely through'

béégashii bikági bíni'estsih béégashii bi-kági bíni-'a - [**sé + ł.tsih**] cow 3rd-hide 'against it'-'surface'-3I-S.PVF.1S + VL.'cause to stick'

'I pegged down the cow hide'

bí-ni-'a-**si-ish**-ł-tsih IB-IB-IV-**VII-VIII**-XI-STEM bíni'a - **[sé + ł.tsih**]core verb

the core verb

bíni '<u>séłtsih</u>

Disjunct				Co	njun	^{ct} Cor	e v	Stem]
0 1b 1a 1c 1d 2 3	4	5	6a	6b	6c	78	9	Χ
						σ -	 F (2
						<u>sé</u>	<u>ł</u> .	<u>tsih</u>

Minimal verb = $\sigma \sigma$

yishcha 'I cry' \rightarrow (y)ischa \emptyset - ish- \emptyset - cha mode- subj- VL- stem 'cry'_{IPV} 7 8 9 yicha 'he cries' \emptyset - \emptyset - \emptyset -cha \emptyset (yi)cha

yisdzid 'I shake it' \rightarrow (y)isdzid \emptyset - ish- i- dzid mode- subj- VI- stem 'agitate'_{IPV} 7 8 9 yiłdzid 'he shakes it' \emptyset - \emptyset - i-dzid \emptyset (yi)idzid

Minimal verb = $\sigma \sigma$

 \emptyset morphs = minimum specification in the verb carry specific morphosyntactic values: mode person number and *valence* 3rd sing IPV Ø yisdzid 'I shake it' \rightarrow (y)isdzid ø- ish- l- dzid IPV- 1st - Vl- stem 'agitate' 7 8 9 yildzid 'he shakes it' \emptyset - \emptyset - $\frac{1}{dzid}$ $\forall dzid \rightarrow$ (yi)łdzid

Minimal verb = $\sigma \sigma$

DZID to agitate or shake around, slosh around 326g

yisdzid *I shake it* yish łdzid

nanisdzid *I shake it around, gargle it* na- nish łdzid

'adádiisdzid *I swallow it* 'a-di-á-d-i-ish ødzid

the core verb

YM 1987:37-38		
Disjunct	Conjunct	Stem
0 Ib Ia Ic Id II III	IV V VIa VIb VIc VII VIII IX [Core V	verb]

σ

core verb = last four position = rightmost two syllables σ

KEY (from left to right):

0	Direct object of postposition.	
	Possessive prefix with nouns.	
Ia	Null postposition	
Ib	Adverbial – Thematic ('postpositional stems')	
Ic	(Reflexive)	Disjunct
Id	(Reversionary)	
Ie	(Semeliterative)	
II	(Iterative)	
III	(Distributive Plural)	

ſ	IV	Direct Object Pronouns		
Ĩ	V	Deictic Subject Pronouns	1	
	VIa	Adverbial – Thematic]	
	VIb	Adverbial – Thematic		CORE VERB
	VIc	Transitional / Semelfactive Aspect markers	Conjunct	
	VII	Modal - Aspectival Conjugation markers		σ
	VIII	Subject Pronouns		
	IX	'Classifier'		
				σ
	X	Stem	Stem	U
_				

the core verb

Disjunct				Co	njun	^{ct} Cor	e v	stem]
0 1b 1a 1c 1d 2 3	4	5	6a	6b	6c	78	9	Χ
						o - yish yi		5 dzid

Morphology 1st person singular, imperfective inflectional pattern

yish kah yishkaad yishkááh yishkaah yishkááł

I accompany them I toss it I track it I move / handle it I am carrying it (in an open container

yish = $\emptyset IPV.1S$

combinatorial units of positions 7 8 9 mode subject classifier (valence)

7	8	9
Ø	(y)ish	Ø
ni	ni	ł
si	Ø	d
yi	ho	1
	'a	
	ji	
	ii(d)	
	(w)oh	

InflP 4 primary conjugations - 16 conjugations

	I. IMPERFECTIVE				II PERFECTIVE		
	PERSON	Ø	NI-	SI-	YI-Ø	SI	
•	sgl.					Ø — Ł	D - L
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		
	1.	yish	nish	shi	yiish	se	sis
	2.	ni	ní	sí	sii	síní	síní
	3.	yi	yí	-	yii	si	yís
	30.	yi	yí	_	yiyii	yiz	-
	3a.	ji	jí	_	jii	jiz	jis
	3i.	'a	ί'	_	'ii	'az	'as
	3s.	ha	hó	_	hwo	haz	has

Base (1st ,2ND ,3RD SING) and Extended (30,3A,3I,3S) Paradigms Y&M 1987:200 for 4 IPV modes and for 2 SPFV modes.

	two most common are ø and n conjugations					
	n-Il	PV		n-PFV (ø-ł)		
	sing	dual		sing	dual	
1	nísh	nii(d)	1	'ni	nii(d)	
2	ni	noh	2	yíni	noo	
3	(y)i ji		3	ni ji		

16 conjugation patterns have been observed in Athabaskan Navajo, Young and Morgan, 1987 Tsuut'ina, Starlight and Donovan,1990; Cox, 2009

Mode paradigms

4 conjugational classes = InflCls ø n s yi (gamma)

• MODE inflected for person and number Subject marking - exponent on MODE

> MODE CONJUGATIONS are the base of (T)AM DOMAIN

			YI-		SI	
	IMPERFECTIVE	ITERATIVE	PERFECTIVE Ø−Ł	PERFECTIVE L-D	SPERFECTIVE Ø-Ł	SPERFECTIVE L-D
1	yish	násh	VÍ	yish	sé	sis
2	ni	nání	yíní	yíní	síní	síní
3	yi	ná	yí	yi	si	yis
30	yi	néí-	yiyíí	yoo	yiz	
3i	'a	ná'á	, I	'00	'az	'as
1	yii	néii	yii	yii	dasii	sii
2	woh	náh	WOO	wooh	dasoo	sooh

bits'a'nísht'ááh bi-ts'a-'a-nísh - ł.t'ááh [npfv.1s fly]core verb n-conjugation

I (flew away) left (it) behind

The Navajo Language Young and Morgan 1987:d247 Young and Morgan 1987:d247

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'a'nísht'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'niit'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nít'ááh	bits'a'nóhť'ááh	
3	yits'a'nít'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jít'ááh	bits'a'da'jít'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nít'a [´] '	yits'a'da'ast'á'	PVF
	sing	dual	mode
----	---	--------------------------------	--------
1	bits'a'nísht'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'niit'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nít'ááh	bits'a'nóht'ááh	
3	yits'a'nít'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jít'ááh	bits'a' <u>da</u> 'jít'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nít'a [']	yits'a'da'ast'a [´] '	PVF

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'a'nísht'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'niit'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nít'ááh	bits'a'nóht'ááh	
3	yits'a'nít'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jít'ááh	bits'a'da'jít'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nít'a [́] '	yits'a'da'ast'á'	PVF

...

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'a'nísht'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'niit'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nít'ááh	bits'a'nóht'ááh	
3	yits'a'nít'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jít'ááh	bits'a'da'jít'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nít'a [']	yits'a'da'ast'á'	PFV

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'anísh ťááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'nii t'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nÍ t'ááh	bits'a'nóh t'ááh	
3	yits'a'nἱ t'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jí t'ááh	bits'a'da'jí t'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nἱ t'á'	yits'a'da'as t'á'	PVF

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'anísh t'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'nii t'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'ni t'ááh	bits'a'nóh <mark>t'ááh</mark>	
3	yits'a'ni t'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jí t'ááh	bits'a'da'jí t'ááh	

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'anísh øt'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'nii øt'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nÍ øt'ááh	bits'a'nóh øt'ááh	
3	yits'a'ni øt'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jíøt'ááh	bits'a'da'jíøt'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'ni øt'a'	yits'a'da'as øt'á'	PFV

	sing	dual mode
1	bits'anísh	<i>bits'a'nii</i> IPV
2	bits'a'nĺ	bits'a'nóh
3	yits'a'ní	
3a	bits'a'jí	bits'a'da'jí plural
3	yits'a'ní'	yits'a'da'as PFV

n-IPV (ø)

Young and Morgan 1987:d247

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'a' <mark>nísh</mark>	bits'a' <mark>nii</mark>	IPV
2	bits'a' <mark>ni</mark>	bits'a' <mark>nóh</mark>	
3	yits'a' <mark>ni</mark>		
3a	bits'a' <mark>ji</mark> ́	bits'a'da' <mark>ji</mark> ́	plural
3	yits'a' <mark>ni</mark> '	yits'a'da' <mark>as</mark>	PFV

contrast sets n-imperfective

	sing	dual	mode
1	bi <mark>ts'a'- nísh</mark>	bits'a'- nii	IPV
2	bi <mark>ts'a'- n</mark> í	bits'a'- nóh	
3	yits'a'- ni		
3a	bits'a'- jĺ	bi <mark>ts'a</mark> 'da'- jí	plural
3	yits'a'- nĺ'	yi <mark>ts'a</mark> 'da'- <mark>as</mark>	PFV

...

	sing	dual	mode
1	bits'anísht'ááh I (fly away) leave it	bits'a'niit'ááh	IPV
2	bits'a'nít'ááh	bits'a'nóht'ááh	
3	yits'a'nít'ááh		
3a	bits'a'jít'ááh	bits'a'da'jít'ááh	plural
3	yits'a'nít'a [́] '	yits'a'da'ast'á'	PFV

bits'a'níshkǫ́ǫ́h	swim away from it
bits'a'nísh'eeł	sail away from it
bits'a'níshdlǫǫsh	move away 'on all fours'
bits'a'níshbáás	drive away from it

bits'a'nísh łbáás I drive away from it 1 2

Whole word paradigms are necessary

The Dene verb - documentation

- identify the constituent elements
- their arrangements
- combinatorial operations
- Identify the patterns in the lexicon

Identifying constituent forms learners will reorganize and make use of more transparent and emergent forms.

Dene verb is a compound of two LEXEMES

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dots \begin{bmatrix} BASE \end{bmatrix}_{x} + \begin{bmatrix} BASE \end{bmatrix}_{y} \end{bmatrix}_{VCOMPLEX}$$

$$\sigma \qquad \sigma$$

- the two bases represent two common types of inflection exponence and internal changes
- the resulting compound is an LEXEME

Dene verb is a compound of two LEXEMES

$\begin{bmatrix} \dots \begin{bmatrix} BASE \end{bmatrix}_{x} + \begin{bmatrix} BASE \end{bmatrix}_{y} \end{bmatrix}_{VC^{OMPLEX}}$ $\sigma \qquad \sigma$

- the **rightmost** element (VL.STEM) is a **LEXEME**
 - **STEM SETS** inflected for mode, suppletion
 - special status
- left element is MODE LEXEME
 - MODE person and number,
 - organized into InflP
- Two lexemes are compounded
 - to produce an inflected **word level LEXEME**
 - organized into its own inflectional classes

"...the Na-Dene languages are not one-third as synthetic as they look....What Swanton calls affixes are all independent stems entering into composition, or even little verbs...

It all crumbles into pieces at the least touch...."

Edward Sapir (1921) excerpts from a letter to A. L. Kroeber ""All the Carrier verbs are made up of at least two parts, the first of which denotes the tense and person, while the second, namely the ending or stem, contains the main signification of the word."

A.G. Morice (1932), The Carrier Language

Sapir again:

"Na-Dene is loosely polysynthetic and fundamentally isolating, monosyllabic elements in a definite order that amalgamate more psychologically than morphologically.

The Na-Dene languages, probably the most specialized of all, are tone languages and, while presenting a superficially "polysynthetic" aspect are built up, fundamentally of monosyllabic elements prevailingly nominal significance which have a fixed order with reference to each other and combine into morphologically loose 'words'; emphasize voice and "aspect" rather than tense; make a fundamental distinction between active and stative verb forms; make abundant use of post-positions after both nouns and verbs; and compound stems freely."

Encyclopedia Britannica (14th Edition; London and New York, 1929. In Selected Writings of Edward Sapir 1949. Ed. D.G. Mandelbaum p 174-175.

Summary:

- Athabaskan
 - population in northern NA considerable time depth
 - historically small population
 - spread across inaccessible landscape
 - languages have highly complex verbal domains
 - similar morphology
 - don't borrow terms
 - verbal domains stand as propositions
 - with complex semantics elude translation
 - inadequately covered by IA /AP morphology

Summary:

- Athabaskan verbal complex learnable structured paradigmatic not served by IA/IP morphology
- Mode-Subject position 7-8
 - mode inflected for person and number
 - organized as base conjugations
 - implies structure in the verbal domain

Lecture 2 Phonetics of Navajo

Phonetic data

the speech habits of a community.

as a basis for

- phonological analyses
- morphological structure
- developing methods for collecting phonetic data that address learnability, theoretical issues
- enhances materials used in communities

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Thank you! for listening in English.