

The Morphology-Phonology Connection

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This paper addresses several general issues in the connection between morphology and phonology, where morphology is understood to involve generalizations about form and meaning that relate words to one another within a language, and phonology is understood to involve generalizations about the sound patterns in that language. Morphology and phonology intersect insofar as the statement of morphological generalizations includes information about sound patterns (realizational morphology), and insofar as the statement of phonological generalizations includes information about morphology (morphologically conditioned phonology). This intersection is extensive, blurring the distinction between morphology and phonology in many situations. The recent literature features three approaches which focus squarely on the morphology-phonology interface: Cophonology Theory (Orgun 1996, Inkelas et al. 1997, Inkelas 1998, Anttila 2002, Inkelas and Zoll 2007), Stratal Optimality Theory (Kiparsky 2000; 2003b; a), and Indexed Constraint Theory (McCarthy and Prince 1995, Pater 2000, Itô and Mester 1999, Alderete 2001, and Smith 1997). This paper argues that Cophonology Theory succeeds best of the three in capturing three generalizations that unify morphologically conditioned phonology and realizational morphology: **SUBSTANCE** (Morphologically conditioned phonology and realizational morphology involve the same operations), **SCOPE** (Morphologically conditioned phonology and realizational morphology have identical scope of application within a word) and **LAYERING**: (Morphologically conditioned phonology and realizational morphology are identical in their interactions in complex words)