

Today's topics:

- **Review: Morphology terms and concepts**
- **Morphological change**

Morphology – review

- Examples: See data set handout

Terms to know: Review from LING 101

- morpheme
- root
- affix
- inflection
- derivation
- morpheme boundary

Morphology – basic concepts

- Traditional definition of morpheme:
a systematic sound/meaning correspondence
- A useful distinction to make is that between:
 - a morphological **feature** (such as ‘plural’ or ‘diminutive’)
 - a morpheme’s **sound shape** (sometimes called its exponent)
- When might one morphological feature correspond to more than one sound shape? (this is sometimes called *allomorphy*)

Morphology – basic concepts

- When might one morphological feature correspond to more than one sound shape?
 - (a) A phonological rule might adjust the pronunciation of the morpheme's sound shape when it occurs in different environments
 - Example: Regular noun plural in English
 - (b) A morphological feature might have different sound shapes in arbitrary classes of morphemes
 - Example: Noun plurals in German

Morphology – basic concepts

Some more terms to know

- **clitic** – A form that has the phonology of an affix rather than a word (often small, often unstressed; depends on the language) but is syntactically more independent than an affix
 - Example: The possessive marker in English
Can it be pronounced on its own?
How can we characterize its placement?

Morphology review

Some more terms to know

- **suppletion; suppletive morpheme** – An irregular morpheme whose shape is so irregular, it doesn't look related to the regular forms of the morpheme at all
 - Example: Many languages have a lot of suppletion in the paradigm of the verb 'to be'
 - Example: The English past tense of the verb *to go*

Morphological change

- Given the concepts we have just introduced, what aspects of morphological structure can in principle undergo change?
 - Essentially, all of them
- Examples from the reading (define?)
 - Allomorphic change
 - Changes in conditioning
 - Boundary shift

Morphological change

- Examples from the reading
 - **Allomorphic change:** A morpheme (morphological feature) can gain or lose sound shapes
 - **Changes in conditioning:** The environment in which a particular sound shape occurs can change
 - **Boundary shift:** The point at which one morpheme ends and another begins within a word can be changed (basically, segments can change which morpheme they belong to)