Morphonotactics

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Fuzzy boundaries and interfaces have long been at the focus of interest of linguists. The morphology/phonology case received various solutions, ranging from complete overlap through total separation via a variety of intermediate steps. The approach represented in this paper is that of Dressler (1985, 1996, this conference), which shows affinity to such earlier stands as that of Baudouin de Courtenay and Kruszewski, the former being often referred to as the father of morphophonology.

The question of the paper is whether, in parallel to the patterns of interrelationships observed between morphological rules and phonological processes, there are relationally analogous patterns between morphological rules and phonotactic constraints. It will be investigated which criteria decide about the interaction, from among universal, typological and language-specific ones, and whether they are rather of a morphological or phonological nature. In particular, some morphonotactic patterns occurring in Polish, German and English will be confronted with the universal preferences for phonotactics formulated within Beats-and-Binding phonology (Dziubalska-Kołaczyk 2002, in press). We will look at the cases of:

(a) morphology motivating marked phonotactics (forms occurring exclusively or by default in morphologically derived environments, e.g. E. *cat*+*s*; *cap*+*s*),

(b) morphology repairing bad phonotactics, which can be called "preventive avoidance" (forms which allow for variants, e.g. P. *willa* 'villa' – GEN *will* ~ *will*+i; *mizdrzyć się* 'to wheedle' – IMP *mizdrz się* ~ *mizdrz*+*yj*),

(c) phonotactics blocking morphological forms or operations (e.g. P. GEN *dżdżu* 'drizzle' – **dżdż* NOM),

(d) cases of performance simplification and avoidance in existing marked forms (e.g. reductions, cf. G. *tanz*+*st* 'dance', 2nd PER SG → [homophonous with] *tanz*+*t* 3rd PER SG; avoidance, cf. G. *Du*

röntg+st 'you x-ray' → *Du machst ein Röntgen* 'you do an x-ray', *ge+röntg+t* PAST → *ein Röntgen gemacht*),

(e) phonotactically loaded morphological rules (DIM formation in P., e.g. *kot+ek* 'cat' vs. **kotk*, *bar+ek* 'bar' although *bark* 'shoulder').

References

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