A Few More Facts about Spokane Stress

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In our paper for last year's meeting of this conference, we presented an overview of Spokane stress which differed in significant ways from our previous descriptions. Here we summarize and illustrate our current classification system of the lexicon of the language, with particular reference to stress and morphological features. We are preparing a paper on the relative merits of our proposals and those presented in important ongoing work by Ewa Czaykowska-Higgins on Columbian; we will comment on this at this year's meeting.

Recall that Spokane stress has a morphological base with the following characteristics: Primary stress assignment is on either a root or a suffix; prefixes are unstressed. There is no distinctive secondary stress. Certain suffixes are strong, always taking stress when they appear in a form. We argued that Spokane suffixes must be designated lexically as either grammatical or lexical, and that the stem in Spokane is a crucial domain for stress assignment. Stem-forming suffixes attach to roots and create stems, while stem-taking suffixes subcategorize for stems, without reference to the internal structure of those stems. Stem-forming suffixes include the transitive suffix -nt, the 'inchoative' -p, the 'middle' -m and a few others; these suffixes can receive stress after they undergo a vowel epenthesis rule. Spokane exhibits the weak/strong distinction in roots familiar from Carlson's earlier work, and recently a third class of root, which we designated the ?emut-class, was discovered which displays a different pattern.

The following is a summary of the surface patterns of stress, given this classification system; capital letters indicate that a given morpheme contains the stressed vowel. Strong suffixes, grammatical and lexical, are omitted here.

\[\begin{align*}
  &a. \text{STRONGROOT}-\text{any suffix except strong} \\
  &b. \text{prefix-WEAKROOT} \\
  &c. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER} \\
  &d. \text{weakroot-STEMTAKER} \\
  &e. \text{weakroot-LEXICAL} \\
  &f. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER-STEMFORMER} \\
  &g. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER-STEMTAKER} \\
  &h. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER-LEXICAL} \\
  &i. \text{weakroot-STEMTAKER-STEMTAKER} \\
  &j. \text{weakroot-STEMTAKER-STEMTAKER-stemtaker} \\
  &k. \text{weakroot-LEXICAL-STEMTAKER} \\
  &l. \text{weakroot-LEXICAL-LEXICAL} \\
  &m. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER-LEXICAL-LEXICAL} \\
  &n. \text{weakroot-STEMFORMER-LEXICAL} \\
  &o. \text{?EMUT-STEMFORMER} \\
  &p. \text{?EMUT-STEMTAKER} \\
  &q. \text{?EMUT-STEMFORMER-STEMTAKER} \\
  &r. \text{?EMUT-LEXICAL} \\
  &s. \text{?EMUT-STEMFORMER-LEXICAL}
\end{align*}\]

We will illustrate each of these in turn.

a. STRONGROOT-suffix \(k^\text{u}k^\text{u}u\text{nt}-e\)x --> \(k^\text{u}u\text{nt}\)x 'You made it.'
makes TRANs-2S
(ii)  ꦯPL-roast-INST-plant  ꦯPL-roast-INST-plant
(iii) ꦯs-n-t-e-fw-min-Æten-ë > sña?yieńn?etëmëtënom-in-(REP)fit together-INST-stomach
(iv) ꦯq-q-min-ụle?x-“-nt-es > ꦯq’qmnúle?x”is

‘sagebrush’

‘growing stomach’

‘He threw it on the ground.’

‘He is making him go in.’

‘He is sneaking up.’

‘He is sitting’

‘I left him at home.’

‘You sneaked up on it’

‘I sneaked up on you.’

‘He stayed at the bottom.’

‘He sat at the fire.’

‘enemy’

‘He followed one person and was himself followed’