

Evidence from Halkomelem for a Grounded Morphology

Suzanne Urbanczyk
University of Victoria

This paper examines a range of word-formation processes in Halkomelem providing evidence for a word-based, relational approach to morphology, where the form of a word is based on its paradigmatic relation to other fully formed words. Evidence is presented that traditional morpheme-based approaches in which words are constructed incrementally have difficulty. Realizational approaches aimed at addressing some of the issues raised by process-based morphology, including stem- or lexeme-based (Anderson 1992; Matthews 197x; Stump 2001), root-based (Halle and Marantz 1992; Embick and Halle 2005), and OT-based (Wolf 2008) are also problematic. This discussion supports an abstractive, relational approach to word formation as opposed to a constructive approach to morphology (as outlined in Blevins 2006). A final section of the paper outlines some of the fundamental features of a model of morphology aimed at countering these problems. Formal aspects of this model are *grounded* in what is known about the structure of the mental lexicon; hence the term *Grounded Morphology*.