MORPHOLOGICAL STUDIES ON PORTUGUESE: A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE IN BRAZIL AND PORTUGAL

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From Saussure to Martinet and from Bloomfield to Sapir, among other names, structuralist studies have deeply invested in the description of morphology as "a study of the formal configuration of the word and the processes responsible for the formation of new lexical units" (CRYSTAL, 1997, 157). Alongside phonology, morphology had a prominent place in Structuralism, whose legacy is still great for the identification of minimal significant units and their role in Grammar.

Morphology, however, had its ups and downs in the history of Linguistics in the last century, often hitchhiking or smuggling, paraphrasing Cagliari (1992), in syntactic or phonological studies, which took a prominent place in formal and functional approaches. The (ir)relevance of morphology and its status as an independent module of grammar was discussed. Some articles even asked "where is the morphology?" (ANDERSON, 1982) and others suggest that "morphology is crystallized syntax" (GIVÓN, 1971).

Since the last decade of the last century, morphology has enjoyed a certain prestige in linguistic studies, formalist or not. With advances in non-linear phonology, Prosodic Morphology gained strength (McCARTHY, 1986) provinding an invaluable contribution to

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the treatment of morphological issues in Semitic languages and an original and very successful treatment for reduplication. In Optimality Theory, morphology accounted for one of the main advances in the area: the creation of the Correspondence Theory (McCARTHY & PRINCE, 1995; BENUA, 1995) leveraged the description of non-concatenative processes, such as, in the case of Portuguese, the vowel mutation in verbal inflection ('pode', 'pôde', 'pude') and several word formation process until then regarded as "marginals", like as lexical blend ('familícia' << 'família' + 'milícia') and clipping ('presidente' >> 'presi').

Still within the scope of more formalistic approaches, the contributions of a theoretical model that unifies morphology and syntax are also very important: the Distributed Morphology (HALLE; MARANTZ, 1993). In this paradigm, a single mechanism is capable of forming both complex words and sentences, and of eliminating the distinction between morphology and syntax in the derivation process.

In the field of Cognitive Linguistics (LANGACKER, 1987), there is an increasing interest in morphological issues, even as a way of validating the theory, predominantly focused on syntactic issues.

With the analyzes more focused on use, morphology has gained prominence within the scope of constructional approaches, initially created for the treatment of syntactic phenomena. The broad adherence to studies in this line culminated in the creation of constructional morphology (BOOIJ, 2010), which dialogues with grammatical construction models, according to which language constitutes a structured inventory of symbolic units (GOLDBERG, 1995) that vary in extension (since the most atomic to the most complex one) and specificity (from the most generic schemas to the instantiation of specific patterns). Although more recent, the so-called Relational Morphology (JACKENDOFF; AUDRING, 2016) is also positioned in the broad spectrum of constructional studies, which has been delving more deeply into morphological constructionalization and lexical productivity.

Both in Brazil and Portugal, works in morphology are still a minority, compared to studies in syntax and, more recently, in semantics. Even so, the results of research in morphology in Rio de Janeiro are voluminous, both within the scope of the NEMP (Nucleus for Morphological Studies of Portuguese), at UFRJ, and at PUC-Rio, in the latter with the firm leadership of one of the main representatives names from this area: Professor Margarida Basilio, who signs the classic text of this dossier. Studies in Distributed Morphology, developed by professors Alessandro Boechat and Aniela França, have also been consolidated at UFRJ.

In Rio de Janeiro, the NEMP, coordinated by Carlos Alexandre Gonçalves, is an inter-institutional research group, based at UFRJ, which brings together researchers from various universities (UFRRJ, UERJ, UFF, IFRJ, CEDERJ) and is dedicated to the study of morphology of Portuguese and its interfaces, having produced numerous and relevant studies on the subject.

In São Paulo, morphology is strengthened in three major fronts: (a) with Distributed Morphology, disseminated from the pioneering spirit of Professor Ana Paula Scher, who created the GREMD (Group of Studies in Distributed Morphology) and graduated PhDs today at several universities, such as UNIFESP and UFMG, for example; (b) in the historical perspective, led by Professor Mário Eduardo Viaro, who signed the Special Section of this dossier, and created the GMHP (Group of Historical Morphology of Portuguese); and, not least, (c) through Lexicology, in the figure of Professor Ieda Maria Alves, responsible, for example, for the creation of the "Observatory of Neologisms of Contemporary Brazilian Portuguese", an important source for studies on word formation and for dialoguing with professors from various institutions throughout Brazil, such as in the Midwest region. The group led by Professor Ieda trained researchers also spread across Brazil, such as at UFGD.

In Minas Gerais and, mainly, in Rio Grande do Sul, studies on the morphology-phonology interface, carried out, respectively, by professors Seung Lee and Luiz Carlos Schwindt are quite representative. Professor Schwindt leads the research group "Linguistic Circle: Phonology and Morphology", with members of many southern cities.

In the Northeast, there are studies in two major fronts: (a) those of a historical nature, within the scope of ProhPor (Program for the History of the Portuguese Language), and (b) those focused on Constructional Morphology, which is part of an Unb-UFBA-UEFS partnership, coordinated by professor Juliana Soledade and conducted by her disciples Mailson Lopes and Natival Simões Neto.

In Portugal, there are many works on Portuguese morphology, in an essentially synchronic perspective, produced by the team coordinated by Professor Graça Rio-Torto at the University of Coimbra, within the scope of CELGA-ILTEC. One of the exponents of this collective work is the *Derivational Grammar of Portuguese*, by GraçaRio-Torto (coord.), Alexandra Soares Rodrigues, Isabel Pereira, Sílvia Ribeiro and Rui Pereira (cf. RIO-TORTO et al. , 2016). Some studies on the morphology of Portuguese from a historical perspective were carried out under the supervision of Graça Rio-Torto (UC) and co-supervision of Rosa Virgínia Mattos e Silva (UFBA), Mário Viaro (USP) and Juliana Soledad (UnB).

At the University of Lisbon, we highlight the studies carried out within the scope of CLUL by Alina Villalva and Maria Antónia Mota, both authors of relevant chapters on morphology and word formation, such as the Grammar of Portuguese (vol.3), organized by Raposo *et al.* (2015).

In this dossier, we have a small sample of what has been discussed about the of Portuguese morphology, in Brazilian and European varieties. The articles show the diversity of themes and problems investigated and the theoretical diversity employed in the treatment of important issues for the area: inflection, word formation, internal and external borders of morphology, typology, morphology of indigenous languages and loans, among other themes equally relevant.

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This dossier comprises a Classic Paper, a work for the Special Section, two interviews and seventeen articles, selected by a body of ad hoc reviewers made up of more than fifty specialists from Brazil and Portugal. The nearly thirty submissions evidence the growing interest in the area.

The classic paper "Saussure and lexical structures" is an unpublished work by professor Margarida Basilio, presented at the Roundtable "The 80 years of publication of Saussure's General Linguistics Course", at the II CELSUL National Meeting, held in Florianópolis, in 1997. In this paper, the author reflects on the teachings of the Genevan master about lexical structures, always giving examples from Portuguese.

In the Special Section, professor Mário Eduardo Viaro discusses the constituents Significant, Meaning and Reference in the traditional model of linguistic sign, with a view to understanding where Morphology would be located in it: whether in the Significant or in the Meaning. Viaro's text certainly dialogues with Basilio one, since both permeate Saussure's ideas.

Next, we have two interviews, both conducted by Juliana Soledade, Natival Simões Neto and Carlos Alexandre Gonçalves. The first one is with the distinguished and renowned morphologist Geert Booij, who has been working on morphology issues for over 40 years and proposed the Constructional Morphology model (BOOIJ, 2010), which is widely used even in Brazil. The second one was made with Jenny Audring, partner of one of the main linguists alive today: Ray Jackendoff. In this interview, Audring talks about the partnership with Booij and Jackendoff and elucidates issues of a new model, coined by her and Jackenfoff from Relational Morphology.

Soon after, come the seventeen selected articles. There are two Portuguese authors, Tânia Santos Ferreira and Rui Abel Pereira, both from the University of Coimbra (FLUC and Celga-Iltec). Coincidentally, the two deal with issues related to inflection: the first one addresses gender and the last one, number. In her study, Tânia Ferreira analyzes a set of morphological deviations detected in productions written by late PLNM learners, in order to identify the strategies adopted by them in the attribution of nominal gender in (european) Portuguese. Professor Rui Pereira, analyzes the information available to the speaker during the production of the plural forms of nouns in -ão and presents the results of an empirical study, which reveal the trends in use among speakers of European Portuguese when it comes to lexical units with optional plural variants.

Brazilian authors are from institutions from the north to the south of our country. From the northeast, Bruno Felipe Marques Pinheiro, from UFS (Sergipe), studies the *-inho*/*-zinho* alternation, analyzing structural and dialectal issues; Natival Simões Alves, from UEFS (Bahia), addresses, from a constructional perspective, the Latin suffix patterns [XNi-ĬTĬA]Sj E [XNi-ĬTĬĒS]Sj and the developments [XAi-IÇA]Sj, [Xi-ICE]Sj, [Xi -EZ]Sj E [XAi-EZA]Sj in Old Portuguese; and Eudes Barletta Mattos & João Paulo Lazzarini Cyrino, from UFBA (Bahia), who carry out a theoretical-historical investigation of two major inconsistencies in linguistic typology, inserted in the morphology/syntax interface: the use of the notion of word.

Two works were developed in northern Brazil: "Nominal constructions and nominalization in Mawé (Tupi)", by Raynice Geraldine Pereira Silva, from the Federal University of Amazonas; and "Is paying the duck the same as paying him?: Considerations on morphosyntactic behavior in phraseologisms", by Davi Pereira de Souza, Abdelhak Razky, Carlene Ferreira Nunes Salvador, the first two from Federal do Pará and the last one from Federal Rural da Amazônia.

From southern Brazil, we have works in different languages and theoretical perspectives: one on LIBRAS and the other on the truncation phenomenon. André Nogueira Xavier and Daiane Ferreira, from Federal do Paraná, analyze 108 lexical formations of LIBRAS, a Brazilian's sign language. In turn, Débora Heineck, from UFRGS, checks the frequency of use of truncation data and analyzes whether this factor influences the truncation process in Brazilian Portuguese.

Two universities in São Paulo contribute with works to this dossier. From Unicamp, Paulo Ângelo de Araújo-Adriano develops a study on the nominal forms of the verb, nominal gerund, verbal gerund. From USP, Maurício Resende analyzes the statute of the unit "word" (morphological) in the light of relevant phenomena for language acquisition.

Representing Minas Gerais, more specifically, the Federal University of the Jequitinhonha and Mucuri Valleys, Pâmella Alves Pereira, through the proposal of a radical-affix *continuum* (GONÇALVES; ANDRADE, 2016), resumes the study of Portuguese formations in which there is prefixation of the non- element to a name, like as in 'non-faithful', 'non-member' and 'non-payment', for example.

Finally, of the five works developed in Rio de Janeiro, four are from UFRJ. Tiago Vieira de Souza asks "Why study morphology?" and claims a 3C teaching: critical, creative and contextualized; Isabella Lopes Pederneira, Rafaela do Nascimento Melo Aquino & Miriam Lemle analyze and present the way in which words and syntactic constructions of the English language are integrated in the Grammar of Brazilian Portuguese speakers, considering the constructionist analysis of Generative Grammar of Distributed Morphology; Leonardo Lennertz Marcotulio & David Batista de Jesus Travassos describe the variation in the realization of the imperfect past tense of the subjunctive in Spanish; and Jaqueline dos Santos Peixoto investigates phenomena of the morphology and phonology interface in Brazilian Portuguese, providing evidence for the notion of derivational cycle. From the Federal Institute of Education, Science and Technology of Rio de Janeiro (IFRJ), Vitor de Moura Vivas & Margareth Andrade Morais propose integration between text, reading and morphological analysis.

We hope that this dossier not only demonstrates how fruitful and varied research in the area of morphology is, but can also serve as a stimulus to the development of other studies in this exciting and diverse field of investigation.

Good reading!

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