14th Mediterranean Morphology Meeting

Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė
Vilnius University
Universiteto 5, Vilnius, Lithuania
E-mail: lina.inciuraite@flf.vu.lt
ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4002-5224
https://ror.org/03nadee84

The 14th Mediterranean Morphology Meeting (MMM14)[1] took place on June 12–14, 2025. It was organised by the Department of Linguistics at the University of Zadar, Croatia. Marco Angster (University of Zadar) joined the permanent committee members Jenny Audring, Nikos Koutsoukos and Francesca Masini as Chair of the Programme Committee. The Local Organising Committee consisted of Mia Batinić Angster (chair), Metka Bezlaj, Marijana Kresić Vukosav, Frane Malenica, Jakov Proroković and Lucija Šimičić.

The Mediterranean Morphology Meeting (MMM) is a biennial conference that brings together linguists interested in the study of morphology. MMM14 lasted three days with 59 presentations and about 103 participants listed in the programme. They came from 22 countries across several continents: Europe (Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom), Asia (China, Israel), North America (Guatemala, the United States) and South America (Brazil).

The conference included three invited speakers: Prof. Dr. Francesco Gardani (University of Zurich), Prof. Dr. Ewa Dąbrowska (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg) and Prof. Dr. Claudio Iacobini (Roma Tre University). In his keynote lecture, Gardani explored the phenomenon of morphological spread, identifying three types: strictly compartmentalized, partially compartmentalized and grammatical borrowing. He framed these types within psycholinguistic models of bilingual processing and long-term structural priming as mechanisms of change. Dąbrowska examined how speakers can appear to follow linguistic rules without fully internalizing them. She argued that much of linguistic behaviour is guided by preconstructed units and avoidance strategies, highlighting a gap between linguists' description of grammatical phenomena and speakers' actual mental grammars. Iacobini focused on lexical conservation and innovation, showing that individual speakers' choices can reshape the lexicon over time. His examples illustrated that competing derivational strategies in verb formation reflect both system adequacy and individual creativity. The three speakers offered complementary perspectives on morphology and the lexicon, focusing on contact-induced change, usage-based and psycholinguistic evidence and diachronic processes.

The conference programme consisted of a workshop, a thematic session, an open session and three poster sessions. The workshop "Untangling the bundle: language contact at the word level and below"[2]

---

[1] For more details on the conference programme and the book of abstracts, see https://conference.unizd.hr/mmm14/programme/
[2] For more details, see the workshop description: https://conference.unizd.hr/mmm14/call-for-papers/workshop/

was held on the 12th of June in the morning. It hosted the keynote lecture by Francesco Gardani and included six speakers. Fabian Helmrich (University of Oxford) analysed the aspectual adaptation of Venetian verbs in Istrian Čakavian. Đorđe Božović (University of Belgrade) focused on split plurality as pattern borrowing in the Balkan convergence area. Michail I. Marinis (Harvard University & The Ohio State University) investigated the influence of Romance dialects on Southern Italian Greek (Griko, Greko) derivational morphology. Luca Gál (University of Cambridge) studied the integration of Romance evaluative morphology into Basque, Maltese and Griko languages. Nika Zoričić (University of Zadar) examined the ways English has influenced Russian and Croatian morphology. Mauro Le Donne (University of Perugia) explored Anglo-Italian hybrid blends with -*exit*.

The thematic session titled "Lexicon, lexemes, lexicalization" started on June 12 in the afternoon and included six presentations. Borja Herce (University of Zurich) and Greville G. Corbett (University of Surrey) focused on canonical lexeme boundaries. Emilija Tribocka (University of Oslo) examined Southwestern dialectal data to pinpoint areas influenced by homophony and those where it is notably diminished through the productivity of the e-class. Aaron Seiler (Trier University), Marie Gabillet (University of Clermont-Auvergne), Sabine Arndt-Lappe (Trier University) and Quentin Dabouis (University of Clermont-Auvergne) investigated the prediction of English stress using a computational Analogical Model. Pius ten Hacken (University of Innsbruck), Sara Aufinger and Maria Koliopoulou (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) explored French *à*-constructions, arguing that at least some of them behave like compounds. Katrin Hein-Antonioli (Leibniz Institute for the German Language, Mannheim) investigated German phrasal compounds. Barbara Schlücker (Freie Universität Berlin) analysed the formation, structure, meaning and emergence of German adjectival compounds with the English head -*like*.

The thematic session continued on the morning of June 13 with a keynote lecture by Ewa Dąbrowska, followed by five presentations. Jan Radimský (University of South Bohemia, Česke Budějovice) and Florence Villoing (Paris Nanterre University) studied the origins and diachronic evolution of attributive-appositive Noun+Noun compounds in French. Fabio Montermini (CNRS/University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès) proposed a non-discrete model for neoclassical compounding in Italian. Henriette Huber, Stefan Hartmann (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf), Kristian Berg, Simon Petitjean and Joshua Wieler (Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg) researched the influence of morphological structure on spelling variation in German. Elisabetta Ježek and Costanza Marini (University of Pavia) examined English denumeral verbs using Qualia roles. Jana Willer-Gold (University of Oxford) and Lucija Periš (University of Zadar) focused on morphological compositionality in mass nouns in Croatian.

The open session, devoted to a variety of morphological topics, started on June 13 in the afternoon and included six presentations. Sacha Beniamine (University of Surrey) and Jules Bouton (Paris Cité University, LLF, CNRS) examined the degree of morphological predictability across the inflectional paradigms represented in all accessible Paralex lexicons. Tim Zingler (University of Innsbruck) and Phillip Rogers (University of Pittsburgh) explored whether languages with larger affix inventories tend to have longer affixes and/or exhibit more affix homophony. Gordana Hržica (University of Zagreb) and Tomislava Bošnjak Botica (Institute for the Croatian Language) investigated the management of overabundance by speakers of different ages. Greville Corbett (University of Surrey) examined how different types of metonymy interact with agreement alternatives, analysing data from German, Norwegian and Lithuanian. Sybil Vachaudez (Institut Jean Nicod/CNRS), Samantha Prins (University of Arizona), Juan Ajsivinac (Kaqchikel Amaq', Guatemala), Carlo Geraci (Institut Jean Nicod/ CNRS), Robert Henderson (University of Arizona) and Jeremy Kuhn (Institut Jean Nicod/CNRS) focused on the use of classifier predicates in Highland Mayan Sign Language. Pavel Štichauer (Charles University) investigated the factors influencing auxiliary selection in Italo-Romance dialects. In the evening, participants gathered for the social dinner, moving from presentations to networking and socializing.

The keynote lecture by Claudio Iacobini inaugurated the last day of the conference on June 14. After Iacobini's lecture, the second part of the open session followed with five presentations. Justine Salvadori

(University of Fribourg) examined the influence of morphological construction on the ambiguity of deverbal nouns in French. Ivan Lacić (University of Bologna) analysed the productivity and semantic transparency of four Italian intensifying prefixes. Maria Silvia Micheli (University of Milan) and Matteo Pellegrini (Catholic University of Milan) investigated the productivity of morphological processes in forming diminutives in Italian. Luisa Brucale (University of Palermo), Luisa Corona (University of L'Aquila) and Egle Mocciaro (Masaryk University, Brno) explored how Italian deverbal suffixes encode evaluative meaning and Manner. Pavol Štekauer and Lívia Körtvélyessy (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice) examined the similarity of onomatopoeias for seventeen different sound events across a sample of 88 languages from six macroareas.

The conference included three poster session groups held over three days. The first poster session (12th June, afternoon) featured nine presentations. Martin Alldrick (University of Surrey) analysed nominal overabundance in Czech and Slovak. Alberto Giudici and Chiara Zanini (University of Zurich) analysed the contact-induced development of the plural forms *uni/une* in Istrian Romance varieties. John Hutchinson (University of Surrey) focused on **agreeing genitives in Eastern Indo-Aryan languages**. Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė (Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas) explored derivational relationships and token frequency of borrowed nouns in *-ūra* in contemporary Lithuanian. Georgia Mikrouli and Nikos Koutsoukos (University of Patras) investigated verbal alternants in Medieval Greek. Lucija Milić (University of Zadar), Jelena Kuvač Kraljević and Lidija Cvikić (University of Zagreb) examined the processing of prefixed verbs in Croatian-speaking children. Carmen Portero Muñoz (University of Córdoba) studied *-ful* suffixation in creating lexical quantifiers via metonymy and its historical development. Junyu Ruan (Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou) used a corpus-based approach to explore the phonological and morphological factors influencing the [ar]/[ra] variation in Attic-Ionic Greek. Manfredi Maria Tuttoilmondo (University of Padua) analysed the plurals in *-a* of Sicilian.

The second poster session (13th June, afternoon) included ten presentations. Vera Agranovsky and Elitzur Bar-Asher Siegal (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) examined verbal morphological productivity in Modern Hebrew. Kim-Kristin Droste (Osnabrück University) explored the combination of two morphological theories to explain words with the *up* prefixoid, tested through a survey on newly created words. Matea Filko and Krešimir Šojat (University of Zagreb) investigated derivational closing suffixes in Croatian. Richard Huyghe (University of Fribourg) and Rossella Varvara (University of Turin/University of Pavia) studied how accurately meaning is conveyed in word-formation processes. Hrvoje Kovač (University of Zagreb) researched the influence of morphological structure on word recognition in Croatian speakers with aphasia. Fabio Montermini, Jasmin Abularach Mendoza (CNRS/University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès) and Cyrille Grange (University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès) studied the impact of morphological transparency on accessing the derived lexicon in Portuguese. Alina Villalva (University of Lisbon) and Carina Pinto (Polytechnic University of Leiria/Polytechnic University of Setúbal) studied the influence of morphological structures on lexical processing by measuring reaction times in a word-reading task. Martin Schäfer (University of Leipzig) focused on derivation and register preferences in distributional semantics. Luisa Troncone (University of Salerno/University of Lille) and Flavio Pisciotto (University of Salerno) described the use and distribution of ***-issimo*** with Italian verbs on X posts and analysed which aspects of the verbs were intensified based on their semantic features. Adam Ussishkin (University of Arizona) and Jessica Nieder (University of Malta) examined the influence of consonantal roots and their meanings on lexical access in Hebrew.

The third poster session (14th June, morning) included nine presentations. Thuany Teixeira de Figueiredo, Rafael Luis Beraldo (State University of Campinas) and Rafael Dias Minussi (Federal University of São Paulo) explored the ability of Large Language Models to process Brazilian Portuguese blends. Francesca Franzon and Emily Cheng (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona) analysed noun distribution across morphological features in 12 diverse languages. Lucia Gallová (Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice) investigated word-formation processes, focusing on how English compounds correspond to and are motivated by Slovak equivalents. Hélène Giraudo (CNRS/University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès) studied the cascading relationships between the morphological characteristics of two Romance languages,

morphological salience and morphological awareness in relation to morphological processing. Frane Malenica (University of Zadar), Jelena Gugić (University Juraj Dobrila, Pula), Mojca Kompara Lukančić (University of Maribor), Emilija Mustapić Malenica and Jakov Proroković (University of Zadar) focused on native and non-native processing of multiword expressions. Ivica Peša Matracki and Vinko Kovačić (University of Zagreb) examined the morphological and lexical status of N-N compounding in Croatian. Péter Szigetvári and Péter Rebrus (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) analysed the impact of truncation on vowel harmony in Hungarian. Martina Verdelli (University of Bergamo) researched the category of phrasal verbs in the Bergamasque dialect. Alina Villalva (University of Lisbon) conducted a cross-linguistic comparison on blend morphology using monolingual datasets.

During the closing remarks of the conference, the organisers thanked all participants for their presentations and constructive discussions. The permanent organising committee bid the audience farewell until the next Mediterranean Morphology Meeting, which is going to be held in 2027 in a location that has not been announced yet.

Lina Inčiuraitė-Noreikienė: Associate Professor, Vilnius University