

Table of contents

Preface	IX
CHAPTER 1	
Introduction	1
CHAPTER 2	
Information and redundancy	5
2.1 Why information is important	5
2.2 Information theory for dummies	5
2.3 Redundancy management	9
2.4 Prominence management	11
2.5 Inflationary phenomena	15
CHAPTER 3	
Complexity, order, and structure	19
3.1 Introduction	19
3.2 Order	19
3.3 Compression, complexity and patterns	21
3.4 Attunement	26
3.5 Emergence, reductionism and self-organization	27
3.6 Emergence and emergentism in linguistics	33
3.7 Complexity vs. cost and difficulty	39
3.8 Complexity of languages	40
3.9 Conceptual complexity	45
3.10 Choice structure	46
3.11 Linguistic patterns	50
3.12 Linearity	51
CHAPTER 4	
Languages as non-genetically inherited systems	57
4.1 Introduction	57
4.2 Memetics and linguistics	57
4.3 Organisms, groups and ecosystems	62

- 4.4 Genotypes, phenotypes and replication 65
- 4.5 Life cycles 69

CHAPTER 5

Aspects of linguistic knowledge 75

- 5.1 Introduction 75
- 5.2 Functions and intentions 75
 - 5.2.1 Functions vs. conditions of use 80
- 5.3 Ritualization and conventions 86
- 5.4 Entrenchment 89
- 5.5 Piecemeal learning 96

CHAPTER 6

Maturation processes 103

- 6.1 The notion of maturity 103
- 6.2 Identifying mature phenomena in languages 106
- 6.3 Naturalness, markedness, and Universal Grammar 115

CHAPTER 7

Grammatical maturation 119

- 7.1 The notions of grammaticalization and grammatical maturation 119
- 7.2 Pattern spread 121
- 7.3 Pattern competition and pattern regulation 128
- 7.4 The cyclical theory of grammaticalization 134
- 7.5 Unidirectionality, directionality and problems of identity 140
- 7.6 The rise and fall of semantic redundancy 147
 - 7.6.1 Alienability and obligatory possessive marking 148
 - 7.6.2 Locational constructions 153

CHAPTER 8

Pattern adaptation 157

- 8.1 Introduction 157
- 8.2 Reductive change 157
- 8.3 The concerted scales model of grammaticalization 164
- 8.4 Preservation of structural complexity 168
- 8.5 Reanalysis and structural change 170
- 8.6 Tightness and condensation 178

CHAPTER 9	
Featurization	181
9.1 Introduction	181
9.2 Abstract features in grammar	181
9.2.1 General	181
9.2.2 Models of morphological structure	182
9.3 The inflectional model	192
9.4 Agreement: Where syntax, morphology and lexicon meet	196
9.5 Can we do without abstract features?	203
9.6 Parallels in phonology	205
CHAPTER 10	
Incorporating patterns	209
10.1 Introduction	209
10.2 “Classical noun incorporation”	210
10.3 Quasi-incorporation	216
10.4 Lexical affixes	219
10.5 Overview of NP-internal incorporation and quasi-incorporation	221
10.5.1 Compound nouns	222
10.5.2 Adjective + noun compounding	225
10.5.3 Possessive NP constructions	236
10.5.4 Co-compounds	239
10.5.5 Titles and other proprial classifiers	242
10.6 Incorporation of locational and directional adverbs/particles	244
10.7 Referentiality constraints	246
10.8 Incorporating patterns in the making?	248
10.9 Explaining incorporation	252
CHAPTER 11	
Stability and change	261
11.1 Introduction	261
11.2 Measuring stability	261
11.3 Do languages become more complex over time?	276
11.4 The dependence of language change on external factors	280
11.5 Who is responsible for maturational changes — adults or children?	285
CHAPTER 12	
Final discussion	289

Appendix A	297
References	303
List of abbreviations used in glosses	315
Language index	317
Author index	323
Subject index	327