

# LAD Conferences

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L a b o r a t o i r e d e r e c h e r c h e s u r l e s a s y m é t r i e s d ' i n t e r f a c e s

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## Morphology vs. Dialectology

In morphological research, dialects have been accounted for only sporadically and rather unsystematically because modern morphological theory is largely oriented towards the standard form of languages. As a result, a considerable number of interesting phenomena in spoken dialects of various languages are left unknown, and thus overlooked in morphological studies. The focus of this presentation is to address a fundamental question regarding the relation between morphology and dialectology. On the one hand, it shows that the study of dialects offers new challenges to morphology, since dialects represent an important source of morphological phenomena, and a good testing ground for morphological theories. Dialectal research allows us to throw light on morphological theoretical issues, helps refine morphological approaches, and establishes robust theoretical proposals. On the other hand, it argues that morphological theory may provide accurate and interesting descriptions to dialectal phenomena because theoretical analyses can offer a repertoire of tools and concepts, which can be adapted within a dialectological framework, help systematize the research object, and add a new dimension to the old traditional description of dialects. Finally, the use of dialectal evidence can contribute to the discussion about language change and language typology.

The data which illustrate views and proposals include examples from several Modern Greek dialects, and are extracted from grammars of individual dialects, as well as from the oral corpora of the *Laboratory of Modern Greek Dialects* of the University of Patras.

**Angela Ralli**, one of the well-known morphologists, is Professor of Linguistics and Chair of the Department of Philology at the University of Patras (Greece). She has studied Linguistics at the University of Montreal (B.A., M.A., Ph.D.), as a fellow of the Canadian Research Council, and speaks fluently four languages, Greek, English, French, and Italian. She has work on several aspects of word-formation, particularly on compounding, while in recent years, she became interested in dialectal morphological variation. Angela Ralli is a permanent member on the scientific board of the *European Network for Linguistic Morphology* (ENLM), the *Mediterranean Morphology Meeting* (MMM), and the *Modern Greek Dialects and Linguistic Theory Conference* (MGDLT). In 1999, she was granted the *Canadian Faculty Enrichment Award*.

### Representative Publications

*Greek compounds* (forthcoming): Dordrecht: Springer.

Hellenic Compounding (to appear). In R. Lieber & P. Stekauer (eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of Compounds*. Oxford University Press.

Composés déverbaux grecs à “radicaux liés” (to appear). In D. Amiot (éd.). *La Composition dans une Perspective Typologique*. Artois: Presses Université.

Compound Markers and Parametric Variation (2008). *STUF (Language Typology and Universals)* 61: 19-38.

On the Role of Allomorphy in Inflectional Morphology: Evidence from Dialectal Variation (2006). In G. Sica (ed.) *Open Problems in Linguistics and Lexicography*. Milano: Polimetrica.

Stem-based vs. Word-based Morphological Configurations: The Case of Modern Greek Preverbs (2004). *Lingue e Linguaggio* 2: 241-275

The Role of Morphology in Gender Determination: Evidence from Modern Greek (2002). *Linguistics* 40/3 519-551

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