

Ojibwe Agreement in Lexical Realizational Functional Grammar

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Paul Melchin · Ash Asudeh · Dan Siddiqi

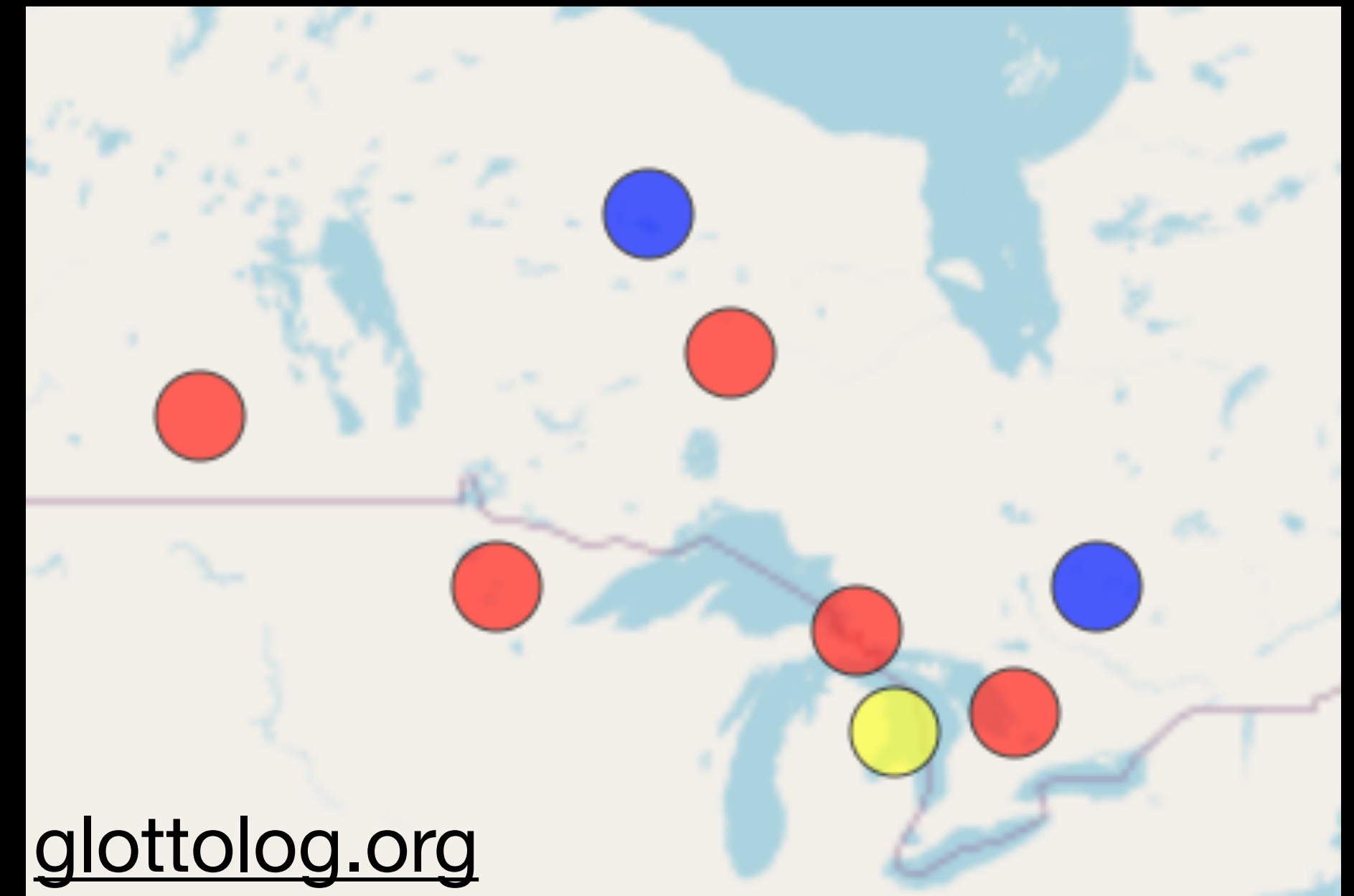
The Theoretical Project

- A framework that couples the syntax and other modules of Lexical-Functional Grammar (LFG) with the realizational, morpheme-based approach to word-formation of Distributed Morphology (DM)
 - ➔ LexicalRealizational Functional Grammar
 - Like LFG, L_RFG is declarative, constraint-based, and movement-free
 - Like DM, L_RFG is
 - “Lexical-realizational” (Stump)
 - Not “lexically encapsulated”/“lexocentric” (in the sense of Alex Alsina’s talk)
 - L_RFG is particularly well-suited to model Canadian Indigenous languages, which are characterized by *polysynthesis* and *nonconfigurationality*
 - The framework can also account for fusional morphology and stem allomorphy, which have received much attention in the Europeanist tradition. We have not emphasized these aspects in this talk.

Ojibwe

An Empirical Case Study

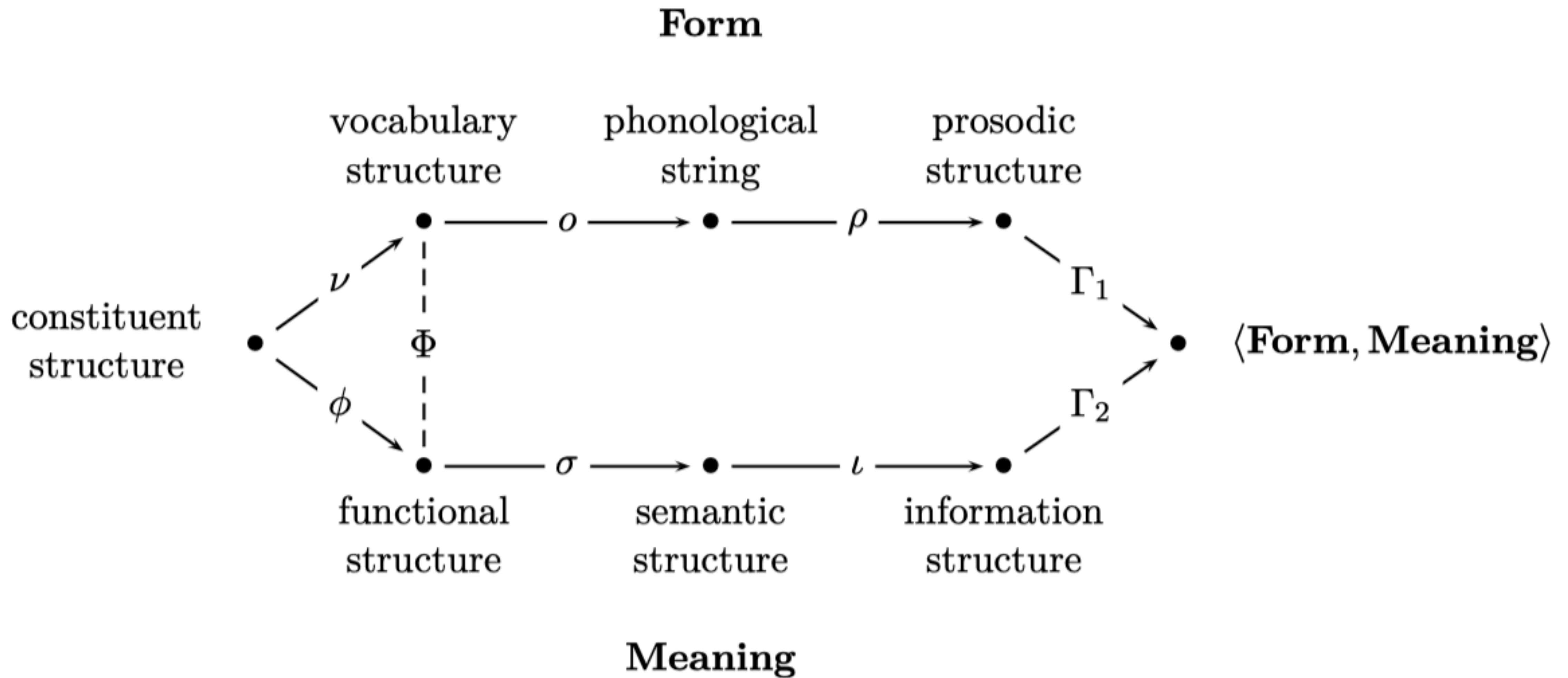
- Ojibwe is an Algonquian language family
- It is spoken roughly around the Great Lakes region, but also northwards and westwards
- We focus mainly on the (Nipissing) Algonquin variety, with some data taken from the Ottawa variety (classifications: glottolog.org, Ojibwa)
- Algonquian languages have long been of interest to linguists working in Ottawa, so there is a sociohistorical reason for our interest, in addition to the empirical properties listed on the next slide
- Carleton University sits on the traditional, unceded territories of the Algonquin nation [<https://carleton.ca/indigenous/resources/territory-acknowledgement/>]



Ojibwe

Some Properties

- Nonconfigurationality
 - Word order is very free
 - Determined by discourse and pragmatic factors
- Polysynthesis
 - Complex verb morphology
 - Extensive head-marking
- Direct-inverse-based agreement system cross-referencing all core arguments
- Various morphological processes, including verbal reflexives, noun incorporation, applicatives, various kinds of (anti)passives, and more



LRFG Correspondence Architecture