

**PLM2023 Thematic session:
(Mor)phonotactic processing and acquisition of consonant clusters**

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Phonotactics is a subbranch of phonology, concerned with permissible sound combinations within words and syllables. It formulates restrictions or constraints on the occurrence of single phonemes or sequences of sounds. *Morphonotactics* allows for specifying clusters which occur due to the intervention of morphology, and dissociating them from phonotactic clusters which naturally occur within roots. Since the latter term was introduced in 2006, a number of hypotheses have been put forward regarding the properties and behaviour of phonotactic and morphonotactic clusters in language corpora, spontaneous and casual speech, diachronic evolution of clusters, first language acquisition and processing.

The goal of this session is to showcase work that explores two of the aforementioned areas, first language acquisition and psycholinguistics. For language acquisition it is hypothesized that morphonotactic clusters carry morphological information and as such are expected to be preserved in production more faithfully than phonotactic clusters. Another question is whether language users demonstrate sensitivity to the presence of a morphological boundary in a cluster; more specifically, if the presence of a morphological boundary in a cluster facilitates or inhibits the processing of words. The facilitating or impeding effect should be reflected in accuracy and latency of responses.

The results of crosslinguistic studies conducted so far demonstrate mixed support in favour of the aforementioned hypotheses (Dressler et al. 2019, Zydorowicz 2019), depending on the methodology, language or subbranch of morphology studied.

The present workshop aims to provide a forum for discussing the results of the most recent research in the area of phonotactic and morphonotactic processing and acquisition from a crosslinguistic perspective and for sketching the directions for further studies, including foreign language acquisition.

Topics that should or rather could be included are markedness of clusters in the light of sonority scales vs. NAD, corpus-linguistic approaches, impact of language typology, such as differences between consonantal and vocalic languages and the distribution of consonant clusters in the three word positions, connection with preceding vowel duration and whether this is phonemic or only phonetic (bypassing phonology), richness of morphology in general and of different parts of morphology. Contributions to language pathology are welcome.

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