

Titel: Synchrony versus Diachrony, [Uldall] 031-0030

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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sification of the physico-physiological material of language, and phonology, the study of this material in its relation to meaning and to the morphological structure of the language. It will thus be seen that morphology without phonetics, i.e. the same morphology with different sounds, is perfectly possible - it matters little whether a given suffix is -t or -n - whereas morphology without phonology, i.e. the same morphology with a different ideal patterning of the sounds, is inconceivable - if the sing. suffix is -t and the plural -n, you cannot substitute sounds of a different phonological inter-relation without upsetting your morphological appercept. The material of phonetics and phonology is the same, but one is linguistically external, the other linguistically internal. It is therefore obvious that you cannot treat phonology diachronically any more than you can morphology, whereas phonetics lends itself perfectly to that treatment. Another thing is that you probably would not get much out of such a history. The sounds, after all, are nothing but the bricks of the building and are significant only when viewed phonologically in their proper places in the system.