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## Irregularity in inflectional morphology – where language deficits strike

In: van der Auwera, Johan; Stolz, Thomas; Urdze, Aina & Hitomi Otsuka (eds). *Irregularity in morphology (and beyond)*. Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 101-123.

### **Abstract**

Regular and irregular inflectional morphology are often selectively affected in acquired or developmental language disorders. An account of this observation is given by the Procedural/Declarative Model (Ullman 2001, 2004) according to which regular and irregular inflectional morphology are subserved by different brain systems which are differentially affected in different neurological disorders. This model predicts that neurological disorders such as Broca's aphasia and Parkinson's disease should lead to deficits with regular inflection, whereas syndromes such as Wernicke's aphasia should selectively affect irregular inflection. We report data on the production of regular and irregular inflected past participles and noun plurals from four groups of German speakers (Broca's aphasics, Wernicke's aphasics, subjects with Parkinson's disease and healthy subjects). Contrary to the assumptions of the Procedural/Declarative Model, our data indicate that independent of neurological syndrome and lesion localisation it is infrequent irregular forms that are prone to error.