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**COGNITIVE HISTORICAL-SEMANTIC STUDIES ON ADVERBIAL SUFFIXES IN
HUNGARIAN**

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1. Introduction

The subject of the dissertation is from the field of affix semantics, which is new for semantic research because the meaning of suffixes has not been described yet in Hungarian, however, similar studies in some languages (e.g. Serbian, Norwegian) have already been started in the international linguistics. Therefore, the dissertation undertakes not only to describe trichotomical adverbial suffixes but also to provide a basis for cognitive semantic descriptions of adverbial suffixes to which historical semantic results are also applied.

In the analyses, trichotomical adverbial suffixes (-*ba/-be* ‘into’, -*ban/-ben* ‘in’, -*ból/-ből* ‘out of’, -*ra/-re* ‘onto’, -*n/-on/-en/-ön* ‘on’ and -*ról/-ről* ‘away from’) were described from a special perspective, which unifies synchronic and diachronic aspects. This intention was expressed in the title of the dissertation *Cognitive Historical-Semantic Studies on Adverbial Suffixes in Hungarian*, so the dissertation focuses on its topic from a cognitive semantic perspective to which historical-semantic ideas were also added.

The dissertation is intended to point out that an adverbial suffix comes to its base word not by chance but by specified semantic conditions and ideas. For instance, in the Russian phrase *встретить кого* ‘meet somebody’ the event of MEETING is expressed by the objective case and the objective suffix used by Russian native speakers; however, the same event is represented with the comitative suffix -*val/-vel* for Hungarians. The reason for this difference can be found in human situations with different profiling and different perspectives of the language users. In the above-mentioned example, Russian speakers emphasize the participants of the whole sequence of events of MEETING, whereas for Hungarians the time of being together and shared moments were important, for which the comitative -*val/-vel* seemed to be the perfect choice.

2. The structure of the dissertation

The dissertation deals with trichotomical adverbial suffixes from a semantic perspective in seven chapters. *Chapters I* and *II* belong to the introductory part in which the Functional-Cognitive theoretical framework and the main historical aspects of formation of adverbial suffixes are introduced. From the general focus of suffix semantics, *Chapter III* is about the meaning of suffixes and deals with the question whether suffixes have a meaning of their own. *Chapter IV*, considering the meaning-forming role of image schemas, studies their

organization in the meaning structure of adverbial suffixes. *Chapter V* describes adverbial suffixes of position RAJTA ('on there') and BENNE ('in there'). In the field of syntactic relations, *Chapter VI*, with the objective of summarizing, presents how adverbial suffixes work in sentences.

The Hungarian National Corpus (MNSz, Váradi 1998–2000) was selected as a language corpus for the dissertation. For studying historical linguistic questions, especially postposition changes, an additional corpus was needed, which could show linguistic phenomena of language use in the spontaneous speech in the most possible expressive way. For this purpose the Hungarian testimonies of witchcraft documents seemed to be the most practicable and, accordingly, the Documents of the Hungarian Witch Trials (MBO, Komáromy 1910), whose rich materials were very useful for studying semantic changes of adverbial suffixes, were selected.

3. Theoretical background of the dissertation

In the studies of adverbial suffixes, I made use of two theoretical models in which it was possible to describe all adverbial suffixes and establish their complete semantic system.

3.1. Trajectory–landmark model by Langacker

In the semantic analysis of adverbial suffixes, a differing emphasis on the different parts of the semantic structure was remarkable. In case of several suffixes I have found that despite the fact that they include the same sequence of events, their meaning was different because in the same sequence different parts were emphasized from the same sequence. In order to study this phenomenon, I used the trajectory–landmark model by Ronald Langacker, according to which in the semantic structure of language units and phrases a differentiation can always be made between an emphasized element (trajectory) and a background element (landmark) (Langacker 1987).

3.2. The Cognitive School in Cluj-Napoca

Studying adverbial suffixes from a semantic perspective is a new, rarely researched field in the Hungarian language; however, important results have been achieved in the semantic description of adverbial elements (e.g. postpositions, prefixes) and their relations by the Cognitive School in Cluj-Napoca led by Sándor N. Szilágyi (Szilágyi 1996, 2004; Fazakas

2003, 2005, 2006, 2007; Páll 1999; Imre 1999; Galaczi 1995; Somkerekki 1999; Andor 1999). These researchers tried to find the answer to the questions which cognitive processes are needed for the language expression of different relationships (e.g. *rajta* ‘on there’, *benne* ‘in there’, *át* ‘through’) to be transferred into a figurative sense and why they are expressed by the specified language expressions used by most people. The researchers have found that when we perceive objects in spatial relationships, we make it in several ways, and the perceptualization depends on the nature of spatial relationships and the movement of objects. Instead of using the term *trajectory* and *landmark* by Langacker, Sándor N. Szilágyi introduced the terms **stable** (S) and **mobile** (M) for designating the objects in spatial relationships. Defining the stable and mobile role/status is not pre-designated; it depends on the relation between two objects participating in the same relationship. Despite this, the spatial perceptualization works by rules because there are general perceptualization rules, which help and speed up perceptualization. One of such rules is, for example, that when observing two objects in one relationship, we generally define the position of the mobile object compared to the stable object. For instance, in the sentence *The ball is under the table*, the *table* is the stable object and the *ball* is the mobile object; this sentence is acceptable grammatically and semantically whereas the sentence *The table is above the ball* – even if it sounds grammatically correct – is not correct from a semantic point of view.

4. Results of the dissertation

4.1. Semantic classification of trichotomical adverbial suffixes

In my opinion, the model based on the duplication of stable-mobile developed by Sándor N. Szilágyi can be applied not only for spatial relationships between objects and persons but also for language elements expressing these spatial relationships. For this reason, in the semantic classification of adverbial suffixes I made a difference between suffixes expressing static situations and suffixes, which can be referred to sequential events. In case of suffixes expressing static situations, the mobile object is in a static status, before or after some movement. These suffixes are the **dynamic suffixes** (D_r) which generally express the status of ‘*being somewhere*’, and contain the complete sequence of events. These suffixes do not refer to moving activities because they designate a point or a section and express simple relationships in space, time and between substances. For instance, the internal directional suffix *-ban/-ben* ‘in’ or the external directional suffix *-n/-on/-en/-ön* ‘on’ are included here.

The other group of adverbial suffixes is the so-called **action suffixes** (A_r) which can express coming or leaving movements, where the mobile object is in movement: either coming toward or leaving the stable object. Action suffixes express continuous *being in movement*, establishing or terminating relationships (e.g. the internal directional suffix *-ba/-be* ‘into’ and *-ból/-ből* ‘out of’, the external directional suffix *-ra/-re* ‘onto’ and *-ról/-ről* ‘from the surface of’).

4.2. The systematization of trichotomical adverbial suffixes

The systematization with historical background was made by Klára Korompay (1992), who also included semantic properties into finding relations between adverbial suffixes. She made a difference between *internal*, *closer external* and *less closer external* spatial relationships, depending on what kind of questions can be related to suffixes: WHERE? TO WHERE? or FROM WHERE?:

Figure 1

Classification of adverbial suffixes in the trichotomical system

Trichotomical system of the spatial orient. Type of relationship	Where?	To where?	From where?
Internal spatial relationship	<i>-ban/-ben</i> ‘in’	<i>-ba/-be</i> ‘into’	<i>-ból/-ből</i> ‘out of’
Closer external spatial relationship	<i>-n/-on/-en/-ön</i> ‘on’	<i>-ra/-re</i> ‘onto’	<i>-ról/-ről</i> ‘from the surface of’
Less closer external spatial relationship	<i>-nál/-nél</i> ‘at’	<i>-hoz/-hez/-höz</i> ‘to’	<i>-tól/-től</i> ‘away from’

If you study the table, a question arises: what do “closer” and “less closer” mean in spatial relationships? How do we interpret them and what is the basis for comparison? In order to define this, I prepared the cognitive historical-semantic systematization of adverbial suffixes, and, from the strictly interpreted trichotomical system, I focused on the suffixes from a different point of view. Therefore, I broke down the trichotomical system of WHERE? TO WHERE? and FROM WHERE? to two directions (FROM WHERE? and TO WHERE?, i.e. *action suffixes*) and one position (WHERE?, i.e. *dynamic suffixes*). I separated *position-marker* and *direction-marker* suffixes, keeping the opposition of external and internal positions/directions. In addition, I interpreted the less closer external spatial relationship as a *relation-marker* suffix because the related suffixes such as *-nál/-nél* ‘at’, *-tól/-től* ‘away from’ and *-hoz/-hez/-höz* ‘to’ do not express a direction but only a relation between two objects.

Figure 2

Classification of trichotomical adverbial suffixes from a cognitive historical-semantic perspective

Trichotomical system of the spatial orient.		Dynamic suffix (D _r)	Action suffix (A _r)	
		Being in sg	Getting closer to sg (+)	Getting away from sg (-)
Position-marker suffix	Internal position	<i>-ban/-ben</i> 'in'	-	-
	External position	<i>-n/-on/-en/-ön</i> 'on'	-	-
Direction-marker suffix	Internal direction	-	<i>-ba/-be</i> 'into'	<i>-ból/-ből</i> 'out of'
	External direction	-	<i>-ra/-re</i> 'onto'	<i>-ról/-ről</i> 'on+from'
Relation-marker suffix		<i>-nál/-nél</i> 'at'	<i>-hoz/-hez/-höz</i> 'to'	<i>-tól/-től</i> 'away from'

Direction-marker suffixes express the direction of the movement from the point of view of the moving mobile object. These suffixes can refer to external or internal movements, where the border of the stable object is a marked point in space. In case of internal direction-marker suffixes (*-ba/-be*, *-ból/-ből*), the sequence of movements include crossing the body border of the stable object, where physically the mobile object touches the inside part of the stable object. In case of external directional suffixes (*-ra/-re*, *-ról/-ről*) there are no border crossings, physical contact can be realized on the surface of the stable object. Position-marker suffixes cannot refer to complete sequence of events but only to positions, statuses such as internal and external *being somewhere*. Relation-marker suffixes denote not the direction of the movement but the relationship between the stable and mobile objects in space. Therefore, border-crossing may occur but this is not confirmed.

4.3. Adverbial suffixes and image schemas

Things and objects existing in the world create different relationships in space, time and entity. A lot of information is included in these relationships, which can be mapped in complex structures and stored in so-called *situations* in the human brain. From these repeating situations image schemas and metaphors which as guidelines can help to understand further new/other relationships, can later arise. Since the physical perception of spatial relations such as *BENNE* 'in there' or *RAJTA* 'on there' is transposed into the language, the criteria of physical perception in a schematic way appear among the criteria of the language perception. The meaning transfer can be realized by metaphorizations and metonymizations, where a relationship can be interpreted by the similarity or identity between the physical and the abstract relationship.

The semantic structure of adverbial suffixes is based on schematic images or image schemas. A schematic image or image schema is an information model schematically constructed and stored in mental images, which is a base for semantic structures of other ideas (Kövecses–Benczes 2010: 133).

In addition, in the cognitive linguistics, a schema is a general, repeating and practised way for cognition which helps the construalizing process in the semantic structures of language phrases in a way that an associated concept slightly activates other often-related concepts (Tolcsvai Nagy 2010: 38–40). Accordingly, image schemas are compressed “re-definitions” of perceptual experiences, which have a task to map spatial relationships for conceptual structures (Oakley 2007: 215). This happens in a way that attributes of physical relationships with their related elements (e.g. image schemas) will be transferred to the level of language elements and will construct their semantic structures.

In the study of semantic structures of adverbial suffixes, constructing schemas can be classified by the sense whether they include a sequence of movement, and if they do, how complex these sequences of movement are. By studying them, I have found some schemas to which no sequence of movement was referred to (*static schemas*), but other schemas included a short sequence of movement with only one instruction or phase (*dynamic schemas*); and finally, there were some schemas which were the most complex schemas, so-called *action schemas*, these included several phases in the sequence of movement. In my analyses, making a difference between the sequence of movement and the image part of schemas was very important because when a suffix comes into a language phrase, its image part will be elaborated by the noun and its sequence of movement by the verb.

Although several papers deal with image schemas in the frame of the scheme theory, my dissertation will survey only those perceptual image schemas which are closely related to spatial relationships: CONTAINER, SURFACE, SOURCE–PATH–GOAL, STARTING POINT–ENDING POINT, CONTACT.

4.4. On the base word for adverbial suffix families of positions BENNE ‘in there’ and RAJTA ‘on there’

It was necessary to involve historical linguistic theories in the analysis method of the dissertation because the trichotomical adverbial suffixes studied by me were formed from individual words via grammaticalization, and they used to have individual word meaning (Korompay 1991). These suffixes did not lose their semantic content but some modifications

happened to their meaning structure (Dér 2005, Traugott 2003: 631–636). Therefore, it was very important to identify the former base word as the semantic predecessor for semantic descriptions of adverbial suffixes. As in the analysis of possible base words I studied the adverbial suffixes in groups of three according to the spatial location, the position BENNE ‘in there’ and RAJTA ‘on there’ were separated.

The dynamic suffix *-ban/-ben* and action suffixes *-ba/-be* and *-ból/-ből* are included in the adverbial suffix family of position BENNE. As regards the formation of this suffix family, the suffix *-ban/-ben* could have a central role, which is proven by the fact that this suffix was created for first. Despite this, the inessive spatial relationship expressed by this suffix was originally denoted by a structure of two words with an individual meaning: e.g. *ház belen* ‘in the house’, where *belen* was constructed from the word *bele~bél* ‘internal part, inside, guts’ and the locative suffix *-n* (Horváth 2003: 52). According to the Hungarian tone rules in speech, the tone was on the first part of a language structure (e.g. *ház* ‘house’), therefore, the second part with less tone in the structure became shorter, and its original meaning gradually eclipsed or was given another meaning (e.g. the current meaning of the word *bél* is a ‘part of the body’). Finally, this word lost its individual word status and became an additional element (Sárosi 2003: 170–171).

The Finno-Ugric base form for the semantic antecedent of suffix family BENNE may be **pälz* ‘inside, internal part of sg’, which can be found in the related languages, e.g. (TESz I. 272, Rédei 1986–1988: 364, Zaicz 2006: 63):

Udmurt:	<i>pol-, pel-, poljn</i>	‘internal part of sg, between part of sg’
Moksha Mord.:	<i>peļi, peļin</i>	‘inside, between’
Zyrian:	<i>pels, pevs</i>	‘between’

Regarding the phonetic historical changes, the Finno-Ugric **p-* at the beginning of words may be voiced by the effect of internal *-l* (cf. *bal* ‘left’, *bőr* ‘skin’). The locative *-n* may have come to the base word from which the postposition *belen* was created and from this the suffix *-ban/-ben* later on. In case of the suffix *-ba/-be*, the lative *-á/-é* may join to the base word, and in the case of *-ból/-ből*, the ablative *-l* may have come (Korompay 1991: 287–288). To sum up: adverbial suffixes of the position BENNE may come from the same base word, whose suffixes were used in postpositional structures of a base word and a primary suffix at first and then as

adverbial suffixes via grammaticalization. It is not by chance that all the three suffixes come from the same base word, which is confirmed by their semantic relationship: the suffix *-ban/-ben* denotes the existence of position BENNE, *-ba/-be* expresses the establishment of position BENNE, and *-ból/-ből* refers to the termination of the position BENNE.

In case of the suffix family of position RAJTA, the cognitive historical-semantic analysis does not seem so easy. According to cognitive semantics, body experiences are important for the creation of new language structures. When we define directions and positions, we do it with comparison with our body. Therefore, it is not a coincidence that in several languages a part of language elements expressing spatial relationships comes from the names of parts of body (Heine 1995: 120–124). If we consider it in Hungarian, several examples can be found. In addition to the base word for position BENNE (*bél* ‘guts’), this can be illustrated by several postpositions as well:

breast, chest	MELLETT ‘next to’	<i>mell</i> ‘breast’
lower part of the body	ALATT ‘under’	<i>al</i> ‘low, lower part’
back (spine)	HÁTUL ‘behind’	<i>hát</i> ‘back, spine’
head	FELETT / FÖLÖTT ‘above’	<i>fő~fe(j)</i> ‘head’
eye	SZEMBEN ‘opposite’	<i>szem</i> ‘eye’

In the opinion of historical-etymological dictionaries (TESz., EwUng., ESz.), the base word for position RAJTA may be associated with the word **raŋʒ* ‘surface’. The SURFACE schema participating in the creation of semantic structure of adverbial suffixes of position RAJTA may confirm that these suffixes may come from the word **raŋʒ*, however, we cannot find any connection with body experiences or parts of body in the meaning of the base word. To bridge this semantic gap, I involved a possible antecedent of the above-mentioned base word (**raŋʒ* ‘surface’) from the dictionary by Károly Rédei: the word **runka*, which may mean ‘body, waist, upper part of body, body surface’. The modified form of this word can be found in related languages (Rédei 1986–1988: 746):

Finnish:	<i>runko</i>	‘upper part of body, body surface, body’
dial.:	<i>ruho</i>	‘belly, body, lower part of body, upper part of body’
Lappish:	<i>rungo</i>	‘upper part of body without legs and hands’
dial.:	<i>runka</i>	‘stalk, tree-trunk, hip’

Carelian:	<i>runga</i>	'body, upper part of body, waist'
Olon.:	<i>runngu</i>	'upper part of body, waist, body, body surface, tree-trunk'
Erza Mord.:	<i>rungo</i>	'upper part of body, waist, body, body surface, figure'

According to the article by Károly Rédei, the last element (-o/-a) in the above mentioned words was a suffix, the stem thus may be **runk3/runk3 ~ rung3/rung3*, which may phonetically be associated with the word **ran3* mentioned by the dictionaries TESz., EwUng., Zaicz. In my opinion, actually, suffixes of position RAJTA may come from the ancient word **run3 ~ runk3*, which may have a connection with the word **ran3* supposed by the dictionaries TESz., EwUng., Zaicz. The meaning of the base word **run3 ~ runk3* as proposed by me may have connections to body experiences, and, having regards to the semantic changes of suffixes and personal pronouns, the upper part of the human body as SURFACE may be used for the formation of the meaning of base word for the suffixes of position RAJTA, since at the word **run3 ~ runk3* the meaning 'upper part of the body' existed in several related languages. All these can support the idea of Bernd Heine, which says that the language expressions of spatial relationships may associate with the human parts of body (Heine 1995: 120–124); in addition, it may confirm the key role of the SURFACE schema for the suffixes of position RAJTA.

4.5. On the semantic descriptions of suffixes of positions BENNE and RAJTA

In the dissertation, adverbial suffixes are presented one by one. The semantic analyses considered three types of relationships in studying semantic characteristics of suffixes: spatial, temporal and entity relationships, of which the last one refers to abstract ideas and personal relations. The starting point of the studies was based on the spatial relationship because on the base of metaphor SPACE=TIME it can be supposed that temporal meanings came from spatial meanings via metaphorization, in addition, entity meanings came from spatial meanings via abstraction. For instance, the spatial meaning of suffix *-ba/-be* is generally used in situations when *something/somebody is getting into something*. This meaning can come to temporal situations, such as when the time goes by from one part of a day into another one (e.g. *Estébe nyúlt a beszélgetés*. 'The discussion lengthened until the evening.'). In case of entity relationships, we can find the meaning 'somebody/something is getting into something', e.g. *vki belehal vmibe* 'sy dies of something'.

Image schemas have a key role in the formation of adverbial suffixes. In case of suffixes of position *BENNE*, the schemas *CONTAINER* and *SOURCE–PATH–GOAL* are involved, so different schema parts will be activated, depending on the specified spatial relationship. For instance, in case of the suffix *-ba/-be*, the schema part *GOAL* will be activated from the complete schema *SOURCE–PATH–GOAL* whereas at the suffix *-ból/-ből*, the schema part *SOURCE* will be emphasized.

Image schemas *SURFACE* and *SOURCE–PATH–GOAL* can be detected in the semantic structure of adverbial suffixes of position *RAJTA*. For instance, the suffix *-ra/-re* ‘on’ with the meaning *nearing* in spatial relationships is expressed in the phrase *vmi/vki vmire kerül* ‘sg/sy is getting on sg’. In temporal relationships, this suffix denotes *nearing* to some part of a day or a point in time, e.g. *Estére megjön a válasz* - ‘The answer is coming by the evening’. In the semantic studies of suffix *-ra/-re* I have found that the spatial meaning *nearing* is often “converted” to the meaning *posteriority* in temporal relationships, where the realization of an event can be expected à posteriori, comparing to the actual time of the verb in the sentence (e.g. *vár vmire* ‘wait for sg’, *kér vmire* ‘ask for sg’, *próbál vmire* ‘rehearse for sg’ /theatre event/. However, in other cases not the posteriority but the act of *getting on a surface of sg* originally realized in spatial relationships was dominant in the meaning of the suffix *-ra/re*, which abstractly expressed partially realized events or events realized with some conditions, restrictions (so-called *partial meaning*), or events which have been just started (*starting meaning*), or events which take a very short time (*meaning of short actions*), e.g. *rátalál vmire* ‘find sg’ (starting meaning), *rákiált vkire* ‘shout at sy’ (meaning of short actions), *szorítkozik vmire* ‘limit to’ (partial meaning).

4.6. Adverbial suffixes and image schemas in sentences

Regardless whether the meaning of a language element is schematic or specific, when it comes next to each other in language expressions, different relationships exist between them, which means that one of the elements elaborate the meaning of another element (Langacker 2007: 441). If an adverbial suffix plus a noun or a verb come next to each other in the same expression, these elements mutually affect each other from the point of view of semantics: a suffix influences the noun as well as the verb, and vice versa. In my studies of adverbial suffixes in sentences from a cognitive semantic point of view, I found that adverbial suffixes have two key roles: on the one hand they come to the noun formally, so the suffix “anchors” the noun related to him, because the suffix shows whether the noun observed as container-like

or surface-like object from the point of view of the perception. It is very important to point out because different schematic sentence structures come to different meaning structures of the noun. On the other hand, a suffix has a close semantic relationship with the verb because it emphasizes different schema part from the semantic structure of the verb.

4.7. Cognitive semantic changes among adverbial suffixes as postpositions

Postposition changes are well known events for historical linguistics, but relatively less studies have been published in this field (Zimányi 2009, Balázs 2004), and these studies have approached the changes of language elements mainly from a structural point of view. Therefore, less attention was given to the perspective changes of language users. However, its importance is not to be neglected because if we accept that language expressions are “reflections” of things in our world with its relationships (Landau – Jackendoff 1993), then we can suppose that changes of things with its relationships may affect language expressions and can modify them. Modifications of postpositions are not a new and unique phenomenon in our language because it is supported by historical linguistics that such kind of changes were natural in Hungarian several centuries ago. For instance, it is proven by data that in the Old Hungarian Period some transitive verbs became intransitive and were given a more general meaning (R. Hutás 1995: 263–264).

In the opinion of several cognitive linguists, a postposition is primarily a perceptual problem and only secondly a grammatical one (Szilágyi N. 1996; Fazakas 2007; Páll 1999; Galaczi 1995). Taking into consideration this approach, I supposed that in the background of postposition changes there are perceptual changes which can concern objects participating in different relationships or related sequences of events. In this theoretical background I interpreted the postposition changes as linguistic expressions of perceptual changes, therefore I continued the study of postposition changes in the selected corpus (MBO, Komáromy 1910: 1–75, Trial Documents of 16–17th centuries) by performing a semantic analysis of adverbial suffixes as postpositions related to verbs associated with positions *BENNE* and *RAJTA*. The task I proposed to myself was to study and classify postposition changes by cognitive semantics. My target was to use results of semantic analyses of adverbial suffixes presented in Chapter V in practice. When studying the postposition changes in the Witch Trial Documents, I found that changes in language users’ habits affected perceptual image schemas and actually, its modifications resulted in postpositional changes. By the changes of language users’ habits and perceptual image schemas, adverbial suffixes were broken into two groups: in the first

group the image part (i.e. the object form) in the schema was modified because of changes of perceptual conditions of the objects participating in the relationships (e.g. a SURFACE-like object is perceptualized as CONTAINER-like); in the second group the sequence of events in the schema was changed (e.g. different parts were emphasized in schema SOURCE–PATH–TARGET). Based on the above mentioned, I separated the **postpositions changes related to objects and to sequences of events**. In the first group, either an object originally perceived as SURFACE became to CONTAINER (e.g. SURFACE → CONTAINER: *törődik v_{min} ~ (bele)törődik v_{mibe}* ‘care of sg’), or an object originally perceived as CONTAINER became to SURFACE (e.g. CONTAINER → SURFACE: *észbe vesz ~ észrevesz* ‘perceive’). In case of changes related to the sequences of events, the emphasis on some parts in schema S–P–T is modified generally.

Schema S–P–T presents a complete sequence of events, whose parts may get into the foreground and others into the background. Since schema S–P–T is temporal as well, i.e. schema parts follow each other in time, emphasis changes in schema parts next to each other can often be found. It has also been recognized that schema part PATH of schema S–P–T lost its emphasis “pushing” it ahead or back to another part: it emphasized either schema part TARGET or SOURCE (e.g. PATH → TARGET: *következik v_{kin} ~ következik v_{kire}* ‘happen sg to sy’; PATH → SOURCE: *olvas v_{miben} ~ olvas v_{miből}* ‘read sg from sg’).

5. Summary

Semantic studies on affixes are necessary and be supplied from a point of view of descriptive and historical linguistics. In order to support this, I presented some potentials of semantic description of trichotomical adverbial suffixes, to which I used cognitive semantic and semantic historical theories. In the analyses I studied adverbial suffixes in spatial, temporal and entity relationships, and, beyond the specific features, I found that in the semantic structure of suffixes some perceptual image schemas (e.g. CONTAINER, SURFACE, SOURCE–PATH–TARGET etc.) existed, which have an influence not only on the semantic structure of the noun and the verb related to the suffix but also on its syntactic relations. In order to check it in practice, I studied the changes of adverbial suffixes as postpositions, where I found that changes of language users’ habits modified the perceptual image schema associated with the specified language expression, i.e. language users’ habit changes were expressed in postposition changes for the speech community. From this point of view, the postposition

change is not only a grammatical phenomenon but also a “trace of the language use”, i.e. a reflection of our common life, habits, changes in our experiences.

Since the dissertation is intended to give a support for the semantic description of adverbial suffixes in Hungarian, the current study can be extended by involving other adverbial suffixes. It is important because with this extension a complete study including all spatial relationships can be prepared, which could help discover a complete semantic network of adverbial suffixes. Since in the analysis method of the dissertation historical linguistics theories were also used, the results of the dissertation can be useful also for descriptive and historical linguistics. In addition to the above mentioned, semantic descriptions of adverbial suffixes can be applied in teaching Hungarian as a foreign language because it can make learning and practising how to use some verbs with postposition easier.

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