

BOOK REVIEWS

Mária Ladányi: Produktivitás és analógia a szóképzésben: elvek és esetek [Productivity and analogy in word formation: Principles and case studies] (Segédkönyvek a nyelvészet tanulmányozásához 76). Tinta Könyvkiadó, Budapest, 2007. 300 pp.

I. Overview

Within the literature of usage-based functional linguistics, this volume is the single most important work on derivational morphology that has been published in Hungarian to date.

Discussing principles of the description of productivity in a Natural Morphology framework, the author provides a profound survey of the issues of regularity and creativity, their interaction, as well as the relationship between productive operations and analogy. The exploration of morphological aspects of word formation begins with an introduction of morphological constructions and functions and leads up to word formation rules, problems of their representation, and issues concerning derivational meaning. The discussion of theoretical issues is followed by analyses based on a large body of corpus data. The precise system of cross-references that link the two parts together embodies the idea of an organic unity of theory and practice.

In her corpus-based investigation of derivational and preverb-related neologisms, the author views all phenomena in a perspective based on usage (sociolects, registers, norms), exploring the interaction of regularity, creativity, and normativity, the dynamics of processes, and their systematic correlations.

Of the new results that the author presents in this volume, primarily her system of criteria for the determination of the degree of productivity of loan affixes is to be emphasised.

2. Principles and methods

Analysing processes of word formation and their productivity, the author consistently applies the framework of Natural Morphology, one of the functionalist theories of language. At the same time, her attitude is flexible enough in that she takes the theoretical framework to be a “mere” background and remains open to other (in general, also functional) approaches. That open-mindedness leads to reformation of the underlying theory on several counts; some instances of this will be mentioned here.

Natural Morphology does not see frequency and productivity as interrelated notions; however, Ladányi (in harmony with Bybee’s network-based model) acknowledges—and demonstrates by her analyses—that type frequency is closely related to degree of productivity, and gives a careful presentation of that system of relationships (47, 130, 157–8).

The independence of degree of productivity from scope of application is a theorem of Natural Morphology; it follows from this that the default status of a derivational affix should also be seen as independent of productivity. Ladányi follows a more nuanced approach here, too, coming to the conclusion with respect to the relative productivity of two Hungarian diminutive suffixes, *-kA* and *-cskA*, that wider scope of application and (consequently) higher type frequency may entail a higher degree of productivity (157–8). The author proposes a new set of criteria to determine the productivity of loan affixes, using it in describing *-itás* ‘-ity’, *-izmus* ‘-ism’, and *-ista* ‘-ist’ (179–81).

The book establishes links with other network-based models (including Bybee’s); for instance, with Hopper’s views on grammaticalization (91). Another example of the author’s open-mindedness and flexibility is that, in dealing with semantic change, she relies on the functional cognitive linguistics approach to metaphors (see, e.g., 84–6, 251).

The author claims that historical processes have explanatory value even for the purposes of synchronic description. This is what underlies her approach to semantic change and grammaticalization, as well as her exploration of productive patterns of preverb–verb combinations in terms of semantic relationships (with *agyon-* ‘over-’, *tönkre-* ‘to ruins’, and *szét-* ‘apart-’ described in detail).

Ladányi analyses **actually occurring words/constructions** rather than judiciously constructed examples. She uses a large amount of corpus data (taken from two sub-corpora of the Hungarian National Corpus, ‘press’ and ‘index’), supplemented by data collected from other sources and by computer search. However, her flexibility is shown, once again, by her resorting to constructed examples wherever needed, given that the theory she endorses claims that productive processes of word formation produce **potential** words (not necessarily actual ones).

The author endeavours to demonstrate the regularity of operations of word formation and, in the case of productive patterns, to account for them by morphological rules. This ambition, however, is supplemented by a usage-based approach to the phenomena concerned. The two aims converge; her attempt at synthesis leads the author to recognizing and representing the dynamics and complexity of processes. For instance, in her study of the grammaticalization of the preverb *agyon-* ‘over-’, she shows that the meaning of the construction containing that item (structural meaning) interacts with lexical meaning and with the changes of both. Furthermore, such dynamism of semantic change is related to a change in degree of productivity in the process of category shift (189). Another example is her study of the synonymy of derivational suffixes (section B/II), where she does not merely compare the meanings of derivatives:

she takes their distribution and possible co(n)texts into consideration, as well, claiming that “Synonymous use of the suffixes [...] is bound up with specific constructions” (128). Thus she is able to present the interaction between derivational meaning (and synonymy) and lexical meaning (and synonymy).

The specific analyses are extremely thorough, covering all conceivable aspects and employing several perspectives simultaneously. For instance, studying the productivity of the derivational suffix *-dA* ‘shop, eatery’, the author considers connotations, rhythmic factors, the relationship between deverbal and denominal derivation (including differences in frequency), analogical effects, the possibility of morphological reanalysis (with respect to the type *tömöde* ‘stodgery’), and recognizes, *en route*, the possible emergence of a new derivational meaning.

The flexibility of her descriptions is further enhanced by the fact that, in some cases, Ladányi refrains from aligning with one of the diverse solutions offered by the literature and especially from attributing an exclusive value to the solution opted for. For instance, in studying grammaticalization processes, she does not decide whether she wishes to interpret them in terms of metaphorical extension or as processes of semantic generalization; rather, she uses both frameworks of interpretation (200), thus being able to present a better analysis than by using one or the other principle to the exclusion of the other. She does not confront productivity with creativity (or indeed productivity with analogy) (255); rather, in unison with Bauer, she takes productivity to be “rule-governed creativity” (53). Therefore, she takes various types of word formation to form a continuum and locates them, with respect to their productivity, along a (hypothetical) scale in terms of degrees of creativity (256), rather than pigeonholing them into discrete groups.

3. Structure, content, and new results

Looking at the volume as a whole, we have to emphasise that it exhibits an organic unity of theory and practice. Some of the results we will mention here were found, in an embryonic form, in Ladányi’s earlier work; but they are worth taking into account in the present context, too, given that partial results, if combined into a new unity, give rise to new insights and can be appreciated more fully.

The volume is divided into two main parts: Part A discusses theoretical issues (17–100), whereas the case studies that follow are further subdivided into Part B (101–237) and Part C (238–83). The theoretical foundations provide a background for the analyses; and conversely, the theoretical issues the author discusses are relevant exactly because they are indispensable for a thorough scholarly analysis of the data. The linkage between the two main parts is reinforced by cross-references and footnotes.

The **theoretical part** deals with general issues of morphology (A/I), the basics of structural vs. functional theories of language, as well as universal, typological and specific properties of languages (A/II). Among other natural theories of language, fundamentals of the model of Natural Morphology are given a more detailed treatment (A/III). A separate chapter (A/IV) is devoted to the systems of notions productivity–regularity–frequency and productivity–creativity–analogy, and the possibility of finding a feasible set of criteria for establishing the degrees of productivity. The author presents a thorough discussion of the notion of regularity, the way it operates and can be detected in word formational morphology, the process of derivation (its types and rules/regularities), derivational paradigms defining derivational classes and subclasses, the relationship between derivation and meaning (lexical, actual, potential;

metaphorical), and between derivation and parts of speech (A/V). The last theoretical chapter (A/VI) centres around the problem of grammaticalization: in particular, it discusses major approaches to the process (A/VI.1), as well as mechanisms of semantic change and the phenomenon of polysemy emerging in the process (A/VI.2–5).

The parts devoted to **practical analysis** are invariably associated to theoretical issues of productivity (and regularity); other topics discussed in the theoretical part figure in the concrete investigations to a varying degree. The first bunch of case studies concerns the system of derivation (B/I–III) with the issues of productivity, synonymy and polysemy in the focus. The author studies examples of native and loan suffixes (of the latter, she discusses *-árium*, *-itás*, *-izmus*, and *-ista*), verb formation (frequentative-durative formation and the verb forming suffixes *-(V)z*, *-(V)l*; B/I), adjective formation (*-i*, *-beli*; B/II), and noun formation (e.g., *-dA*, *-(s)di*, *-kA*, *-cskA*; B/III). However, the organizing principle is not the origin of the suffix or the category of the output of the word formation rule concerned—each case study focuses on some specific aspect of productivity.

In the sections of verb formation, the analysis centres on derivational paradigms and **systematic relationships** (B/I.1) or **degrees of productivity** (B/I.2). The author's graduality hypothesis refers to the extent to which various productive rules are comparable in terms of degrees of productivity. The author shows that there is a correlation between the difference of scope and the degree of productivity of the general verb forming suffix *-(V)z* and its special counterpart *-(V)l*: in the case of a scope conflict between rival suffixes, it is the general suffix that wins out (112). On the other hand, in terms of another criterion, the ability of incorporating loan bases, it is the productivity of *-(V)l* that turns out to be higher (*idem.*).

In adjective formation, it is the phenomena of **synonymy** and **division of labour** that are especially studied in the case of rival suffixes (B/II). The exploration of derivational rules and meanings is done with co(n)text taken into account and the author concludes that the synonymous use of suffixes "is bound up with specific constructions" (128).

The section on noun formation studies suffixes whose productivity is a matter of dispute in the relevant literature. In addition to looking for and eventually formalizing the relevant rule of word formation, the author also tries to find out, for productive derivations, what gives rise to **differences in the degree of productivity of synonymous suffixes** (like diminutive *-kA*, *-cskA*) (B/III.3). Ladányi comes up with an adequate theoretical explanation of the grammaticalization of disyllabic derivatives in *-kA*. In the section on diminutive suffixes, the study of the interaction of scope and productivity yields an unexpected result (157–8). The author creates harmony between diachronic and synchronic aspects of this analysis in an exemplary fashion. In discussing the suffix *-(s)di* 'children's play involving X', the author deals with issues of segmentation (in addition to proving that the suffix is productive, 147–9).

Analysing **borrowed derivational suffixes** (B/III.4), Ladányi proposes a set of criteria for establishing the degree of productivity of these suffixes (180). In doing that, she remains faithful to the principles of Natural Morphology, yet she offers a revision of Dressler's former claims. In the case of *-árium* 'ar/-ary/-arium' (just like in the case of *-dA* 'shop, eatery'), processes of analogy are in the foreground (B/III.4.1). As opposed to the narrow scope and low productivity of *-itás* '-ity', the suffixes *-izmus* '-ism' and *-ista* '-ist' exhibit a higher degree of productivity since they can derive new words "not only from borrowed but also from native bases"; what is more, "they compete with native endings/suffixes" (178). The set of criteria proposed for loan suffixes is a valuable

contribution of this book to research on the productivity of derivational suffixes; and by applying those criteria, the author is quite entitled to redraw the picture that the former Hungarian literature offered concerning the productivity of these suffixes.

The first set of case studies closes by discussing morphosemantic issues pertaining to preverb–verb combinations (B/IV). This part of the word formation morphology of Hungarian is given more than 50 pages (from the almost 140 pages devoted to systematic analyses). The discussion focuses (along with regularity) on the **process of grammaticalization** (as well as **semantic change** and **polysemy**). The author's functional perspective, resoluteness in analysis, and theoretical flexibility and open-mindedness are clearly shown by the fact that she posits chains of semantic changes in the process of grammaticalization, taking meanings to form a continuum (193); on the other hand, she points out that the various meanings are related to diverse possibilities of cooccurrence and various degrees of productivity. It is especially in the discussion of the grammaticalization of the preverbs *agyon-* 'over-' and *tönkre-* 'to ruins' that she makes it clear how important conceptual factors (changes of viewpoint) are in the processes of semantic change (192–7).

Ladányi devotes a detailed treatment to the polysemy of *agyon-* (185–91, 221–30) and *tönkre-* (190–9, 231–4), the presumable process of their grammaticalization with its "stages", as well as their **patterns of cooccurrence**; also touching on the polysemy and cooccurrence patterns of *be-* 'in' and *szét-* 'apart' (the discussion is complemented by section C/II where we can read an analysis of neologisms involving *be-*).

The author selected and organised her material with great care: we find examples of ancient and recent (and even brand new) preverbs, the analysis is linked with an exploration of the process of grammaticalization, with a detailed account of the chain of semantic changes in the case of two preverbs, and also with a usage-based analysis in the case of one of them; the discussion involves theoretical issues of polysemy, productivity and grammaticalization, combined with the usage-based approach.

The second bunch of case studies (Part C) concern phenomena of derivation and preverb–verb combination, also in terms of a corpus-based study, focusing this time, along with productivity (and regularity), on **creative processes** via an analysis of **neologisms**. The author explores (mainly poetic, but also colloquial) derivational neologisms in terms of the criteria of rule following vs. rule breaking and productive vs. non-productive operations (C/I). Especially interesting in this respect are the subsections dealing with analogical derivations and their subtypes (C/I.2.3) and the joint occurrence of rule breaking and rule following (C/I.2.4). Finally, the author presents a set of criteria for establishing a scale representing the degrees of productivity and creativity together (256).

Another group of neologisms studied here is made up by words involving the preverb *be-* 'in' (C/II). As opposed to a discrete approach to **Aktionsarten**, the author draws our attention to their intertwined character on the basis of her analysis of the data, as a new result (e.g., 277). She shows that 'submersiveness' is invariably accompanied by inchoativity and intensity (267). She uses the set of categories proposed by Ferenc Kiefer for the determination of Aktionsarten (261–2); however, the difficulties she encounters show that this kind of classification, as the data reveal, is unnatural.

The author's observations concerning the bundling of Aktionsarten will hopefully have a fertilizing effect on theoretical approaches to this issue. Her analyses also show that argument structure is not always unaffected by Aktionsart-formation (263); this observation also has theoretical repercussions.

Ladányi presents the dynamism of the process whereby *be-* replaces other preverbs like *fel-* ‘up’ (272). Also, similarly to cases of derivational neologisms, she brings up examples of regularities involving *be-* that defy the prevailing norm (277–9).

4. Formal aspects

In the theoretical part, emboldening of crucial terms helps directing the reader’s attention. Such highlighting is not found—and would be inappropriate—in the analytical part, but the introductory and concluding paragraphs of each subsection also make it simple for the reader to follow the argumentation and the results.

In the book, a total of 374 numbered displays (examples, rule/operation formulations, meaning specifications) can be found. 218 footnotes serve accuracy of presentation or contain references to additional literature, or else they provide within-book cross-references. Even footnotes are sometimes referred to either in the main text or in other footnotes. The author gives references to almost 300 items of literature; the use of sources increases the number of references even further. Clear and accurate references are found not only to the relevant literature and sources, but also to the author’s own previous work.

The numbering of sections and subsections has a clear multi-level system. This is a necessary tool for the author for helping the reader in finding portions of the text that are far from one another in the book but are closely related to one another.

5. Conclusion

One of the main assets of Ladányi’s work is that she approaches problems that are currently relevant in scholarly discourse with well-formulated questions. This is a key to finding the right answers. She does not narrow down her scope of research by forced choices but examines linguistic data and possibilities of interpretation with an open mind in order to find an explanation or, in a number of cases, several solutions each with its own explanatory value. Her well-founded and nuanced analyses are the fruit that her way of looking at things bears.

Nóra Kugler

Gábor Tolcsvai Nagy – Mária Ladányi (eds): Általános Nyelvészeti Tanulmányok XXII. Tanulmányok a funkcionális nyelvészet köréből [Studies in General Linguistics. Vol. 22. Papers on functional linguistics]. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2008. 566 pp.

I. The publication of a collection of papers whose declared aim is to introduce the Hungarian reader to theories and methods of functional linguistics has been long overdue. The present volume is based on work carried out in the Functional Linguistics Workshop of Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. As pointed out in its Introduction, the volume has three main aims: first, it attempts to provide an introductory survey of current trends in functional linguistics; second, it offers a glance into the methods and

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topics of ongoing projects of the said workshop; and third, it wishes to suggest possible directions in which future research in functional linguistics is meant to progress in Hungary.

2. The overview by Mária Ladányi and Gábor Tolcsvai Nagy, entitled *Functional linguistics*, presents the main trends, as well as the general principles, of functional linguistics. The authors discuss forerunners of today's functional linguistics from Malinowski, Sapir, the Prague School and the London School to the first works by Halliday and Givón. They point out that the emergence of these trends was inevitable, especially in view of issues having to do with the dynamism, as well as cognitive and social embeddedness, of language that structural descriptions had largely ignored. A comparison with structuralist and generative trends helps clarify some fundamental principles of functional linguistics: the various trends of the latter all deny the autonomous existence of language as a system, contest a strict separation of synchrony from diachrony, disavow the opposition of *langue* vs. *parole*, respectively competence vs. performance, and wish to account for language in the multiplicity of its varieties, rather than describing the linguistic system of an idealised speaker or community of speakers. Functional linguists give priority to empirical investigations and make *a posteriori* claims; they emphasise meaning/function over form and motivation over arbitrariness, given that language emerges from, and changes during, its use.

The authors summarise shared features that characterise the functional paradigm as a whole. Language has three basic functions: the representative, the interactive, and the cognitive function; its evolution is also influenced by language-external factors since language is a partly biologically determined system. Linguistic knowledge is shaped by cognitive abilities and limitations like abstraction, schematisation, and memory restrictions; hence, linguistic system is a system of schemes whose implementation is characterised by context-sensitive gradualness; categorisation, also based on cognitive abilities, takes place in terms of the prototype principle. Linguistic knowledge is acquired knowledge, it is closely connected with knowledge of the world, it is organised in networks and is open-ended; the various levels of language form a continuum. As a most important principle, the authors also refer to usage-based description in which frequency, the relation between construction types and tokens, emergence, production and comprehension, experience and learning, and data from language use all play a decisive role. Pragmatic and socio-cultural aspects of language use like discourse, context, and variation are also important and have to be integrated into linguistic description.

The last section of the paper gives a more detailed account of some important trends of functionalism: Halliday's systemic-functional and Givón's biological-adaptational grammar, holistic cognitive linguistics, constructional grammar, natural linguistics, Paul Hopper's emergent grammar, and Joan Bybee's work.

3. Nóra Csontos and Szilárd Tátrai's paper *A pragmatic approach to quoting (Possibilities of the investigation of modes of quoting in written Hungarian, past and present)* takes a functional-cognitive approach to modes of quoting. In the authors' view, quoting is an instance of intertextuality. By way of introduction, they briefly characterise the relationship between embedded discourse (quotation) and actual discourse. In the first part of their diachronic study, they confront main modes of quoting (direct, free indirect, and indirect quotations) with two non-neutral perspectives; discussing displacement vs. non-displacement of the referential centre in terms of a detailed analysis

of deictic expressions on the one hand, and the markedness of perspectivisation, the explicit or implicit means of referring to the subject of consciousness, on the other. The functioning of perspective in quoting is presented in illustrative examples ranging between the earliest extant Hungarian documents and texts written in the twentieth century.

In the rest of the paper, the authors study degree of metapragmatic awareness: they take various kinds of marking a quotation (punctuation marks and other graphical devices, quoting verbs, accuracy of description of circumstances) and rank them in terms of the mental effort required for each. Finally, they analyse degrees of pragmatic reflection in connection with the functioning of the referential centre.

Csilla Ilona Dér's survey entitled *Is degrammaticalisation a distinct type of linguistic change?* is directed at the phenomenon of degrammaticalisation and its representation in the formal and functional paradigms, respectively. The author starts with possible definitions of degrammaticalisation; she says this concept could be interpreted as a process that is just as complex as grammaticalisation is but goes in the opposite direction.

In her detailed exploration of the phenomenon, the author lists potential instances "circulating" in the literature and introduces similar Hungarian lexical changes; in addition, she attempts to classify candidates having undergone part-of-speech changes of the same kind. Taking her data case by case, she convincingly argues that completed changes either belong to some other type of change (word class switch, lexicalisation, reanalysis, exaptation) or the word class assignment or etymology of the words at hand is wrong, or else an alternative hypothesis is also possible along with the assumed degrammaticalisation. The author's final conclusion is that even if we accept certain cases of degrammaticalisation, neither typical nor large-scale degrammaticalisation of linguistic items can be assumed, that is, the examples at hand are inadequate for questioning or refuting the tendentiousness of grammaticalisation or the unidirectionality hypothesis of grammaticalisation theory.

Ágnes Hámori in her *Attention and speech acts in discourse* concentrates on the cognitive dimension of attention and explores speakers' strategies in discourse and in the various speech acts. In presenting the theoretical background, the author gives a complex account of the process of direction of attention in terms of the functioning of mental/cognitive, pragmatic, and text semantic factors. After that, Hámori presents the results of an empirical study in which she comes to novel conclusions concerning the direction of attention from her analysis of an approximately 24,600-word material of two televised debates of prospective Hungarian prime ministers.

Among genre-specific features of televised debates (like speakers' aims, listeners' expectations, listeners' reactions to positive and negative attitudes and their efficiency), one of the primary aims of the participants turns out to be directing listeners' attention. The corpus study, as a first step, focuses on the explicit vs. implicit and direct vs. indirect tools of politeness or facework, and then on speakers' metapragmatic utterances (commenting upon their own or their adversary's language activity). The conclusions she draws are then confronted with the effect that the debates had made on their audiences.

András Imrényi's paper *Structural focus — pragmatic type marking?* is built around the phenomenon referred to as "focus" or "structural focus" in the generative terminology. The author makes highly remarkable observations concerning the pragmatic types of Hungarian sentences and the iconicity of the order of verbs and their modifiers

in them. The vantage point of his discussion is that the “normal” order of modifiers and verbs confirms the validity of the proto-statement,¹ whereas their inversion suggests its restriction in some sense (question, negation, identification). The conclusion concerning inversion is obviously not an absolute rule but rather a prototype-based tendency.

Although the method Imrényi applies here (discussing laboratory sentences out of context) strikingly differs from the “most important shared principles” laid out in the Introduction of the volume, especially inasmuch as “the importance of actual context and the primacy of data coming from real texts” (9) is concerned, in future work he may go on to substantiate his theory of pragmatic type marking via corpus studies to be conducted in accordance with the principles of functional linguistics.

Gabriella Kothencz’s *On the causes of changes in lexical meaning in a holistic cognitive semantics framework* tries to explore possible causes of semantic changes with the help of holistic cognitive theories that go beyond the system-based methods applied so far in several respects. In the first example she brings up to point out the difference between the two attitudes she argues—in terms of processes yielding conceptual metaphors and metonyms—for the possibility of deriving *áld* ‘bless’ from *ad* ~ *ád* ‘give’. Her arguments to support a similar derivation of *átkoz* ‘curse’ from *ad* ~ *ád* seem to be rather less plausible.

In the rest of her paper, the author presents causes of semantic changes organised into groups and illustrated by interesting examples. Among such causes, she lists the development of frame connections, the selection of prototypes (e.g. in the semantic changes of *ház* ‘house’), socio-cultural changes (e.g. the emergence of the Hungarian system of meals), the naming requirement, conceptualisation via a conceptual metaphor (her example here involves an unexpected argumentation based on the notion of gradual conceptual changes and supporting the possibility of identifying *fog* ‘tooth’/‘catch’ as a “nomenverbum”), as well as the reduction of complexity and irregularity in the lexicon.

Nóra Kugler, in her paper *The functions of modal adverbs of epistemic modality and evidentiality and the operations related to them*, deals with the functions of modal adverbs both within the modal domain and outside of it, first in a survey of (cognitive) theories of modality, and then in an exquisite corpus-based study.

The author first provides a comprehensive and critical survey of holistic cognitive (and other) theories of modality, establishing a connection between the notion of modality in cognitive theories of perspective and that in possible worlds based theories. In her view, modal adverbs can be categorised as a means of subjectification. Based on her own previous studies, Kugler establishes a system of modalities for Hungarian that is different from that of English, and claims—also on the basis of her own empirical findings—that epistemic modality and evidentiality are overlapping categories. In characterising epistemic modal adverbs, she points out the fact that the scale of modal force is only unambiguous in the case of a high degree of necessity; at a lower degree of necessity, contextual support is needed for establishing the degree of modal force of the given adverb.

¹ Defining the verbal predicate as a proto-statement is based on the idea well known from valence theory and cognitive semantics that the whole of a clause unfolds from its predicate; the former is, as it were, encoded or encapsulated in the latter.

In the second part of her paper, the author explores the frequency and functions of the lexeme *talán* 'perhaps' in both spoken and written texts; on the basis of the results that she lays out thoroughly and precisely, she establishes different frequency values and partly different functions in the two subcorpora: in spoken texts, *talán* occurs significantly more frequently than in written ones and partly with pragmatic functions. At the end of the paper, the author sketches the grammaticalisation paths of the modal adverb *talán*, including cases where it leaves the modal domain.

Krisztina Laczkó's paper *On deixis with demonstrative pronouns* aims at a functional description of Hungarian nominal demonstratives. The author shows the functioning of deixis in terms of mental/cognitive processes (like perspectivisation or epistemic grounding) and pragmatic phenomena (like social deixis).

The author goes about the exploration of the functioning of deixis by presenting a rich array of examples that are typically cited embedded in situational context. In reinterpreting the system of demonstrative pronouns, the author draws the reader's attention to a number of fine nuances and functionally significant details. She defines 'event deixis' as a subtype of exophora (reference to the speech situation, p. 323, fn 17) whose symbolic use functionally points toward endophora (reference to some other portion of the text). In systematising demonstrative pronouns, then, she ends up with a flexible pronominal system with situational differences taken into account, rather than a system of strictly separated categories.

Mária Ladányi's long paper *Productivity and analogy in word formation: some cases of Hungarian noun formation* is based on a fertile interaction between the theoretical framework of Natural Morphology and several extended corpus studies; it can be seen as a summation of the author's analytic papers published in recent years. The author defines productivity as "system level potentiality" that can be formalised as a set of rules applied to open word classes; in this approach, the difference between potential words (derivable by rules constituting the linguistic system) and actual words (observable in language use) is of utmost importance. With respect to semantic transparency, Ladányi refers to the intertwining of productivity with the processes of lexicalisation and grammaticalisation, that are, in their turn, not independent of type and token frequency. Further far-reaching consequences are offered with respect to the relationship between productivity and creativity, as well as to the various interpretations of the notion of analogy.

The corpus study involves a comprehensive qualitative analysis of four native and four borrowed derivational suffixes on a large material (mainly based on the Hungarian National Corpus) that has not yet been submitted to investigation of exactly this type. In her study, the author tries to formulate rules to account for the neologisms she has found and then she applies the system of criteria of Natural Morphology to the use of suffixes that exhibit some regularity in order to establish their degree of productivity.

We have to specially mention some unexpected theoretical results presented in the paper that the author bases on her empirical observations gained from the corpus study. Such results include, in the given theoretical framework, the connection established between productivity and domain size or frequency of occurrence. Another attainment that enriches the toolkit of Natural Morphology is a novel system of criteria for the establishment of degrees of productivity of loan derivational suffixes, also proposed on the basis of empirical data.

Kornélia Papp's *On adjectival modifiers* is a paper that introduces new theoretical concepts into Hungarian research and invites the reader to join in thinking about them.

It turns out from the literature survey that the issue of adjectival modifiers has received little attention in functional-cognitive work so far; therefore, we are given a detailed summary of possibilities of the functional and/or cognitive description of adjectives. It is primarily Langacker's cognitive semantics and the frame semantic approach that Papp thinks are suitable as a theoretical background of describing adjectival modifiers. In the course of scrutinising various examples, she establishes the relevance of the prominence of larger surfaces with respect to a number of constructions involving adjectival modifiers (although the prominence of colours would also deserve some comment with respect to constructions like *piros pöttyös labda* 'red-spotted ball/spotted red ball' that she discusses, cf. p. 443).

After the theoretical part, Papp presents a corpus study of the adjective *nagy* 'big' occurring in constructions of diverse complexity; she points out that the adjective under study is typically connected with three conceptual frames that can be given a clear order of preference (SIZE > DEGREE > SIGNIFICANCE) on the basis of frequency data found in the material.

Gábor Tolcsvai Nagy's paper *Topic, information flow, and word order* makes a successful attempt at interpreting phenomena having to do with the topic-comment structure of Hungarian clauses. The author first raises some metatheoretical issues of fundamental importance with respect to the interpretation of topics. On the basis of his extremely rich knowledge of the literature, Tolcsvai Nagy establishes a multi-level system that covers practically all conceivable interpretations. After that, the author reviews the major interpretations of the notion of topic offered within various functional-cognitive trends (primarily in the models of Givón, Langacker, Talmy, Taylor, and Chafe), emphasising their common core: topic is an easily accessible entity having a wider notional scope that leads to the process profiled by the verb. All that is illustrated by the semantic-pragmatic analysis of an example selected from a corpus.

In the rest of his paper, the author investigates the relationship between topicality and word order. The notions of conceptual reference point and various perspectives, prominence, and cognitive path (the order of the mental processing of various words/notions) continue to play a central role. With respect to Hungarian as a language with flexible word order,² Tolcsvai Nagy draws up the natural cognitive paths arising from the possible word order variants, only two of which match the path starting from the trajector (prototypically agent and subject) and able to evoke the conceptual domain of the whole clause (this being the word order that is prototypical in a decontextualised situation). The author argues for a dynamic model of sequential conceptualisation; according to his argumentation, in languages with a flexible word order, conceptual sequentiality is a significant factor.

4. As can be seen, the collection of papers under review here is the result of many years of high-standard and concentrated work. Its rich thematic range covers various areas of pragmatics, topic-comment structure, grammaticalisation, deixis, modality, and (diachronic as well as synchronic) cognitive semantics. The problems it raises and the theoretical and empirical results it reports undoubtedly represent a valuable

² Flexible word order is to be understood as opposed to languages in which word order determines the grammatical roles (subject, object, etc.) of the various syntactic constituents; in Hungarian, constituents can be ordered with relative flexibility due to the rich system of inflections (cf. pp. 483–4).

contribution to the Hungarian literature of linguistics. As a complementation, the present two issues of *Acta Linguistica Hungarica* (56/4 and 57/1) try to convey the research results of the Functional Linguistics Workshop of Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest) to a larger, international audience.

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