

Denominal, deadjectival and deverbal adjectives in Slovak and German

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Abstract

The study focuses on the comparative analysis of the word-formation process with the aim to identify and explain agreements, similarities and differences in the creation and semantics of denominal, deadjectival and deverbal adjectives in the Slovak and German languages. The description and interpretation of the word-formation potential of denominal, deadjectival and deverbal adjectives of these languages are part of this article. Many of the differences are directly connected to the different language characteristics of Slovak and German. The theoretical and methodological background is based on Miloš Dokulil's Onomasiological Concept of Word-Formation.

Key words: comparative word-formation, Slovak, German, denominal adjectives, deadjectival adjectives, deverbal adjectives

Introduction

The following text is a testimony to the inexhaustibility of Miloš Dokulil's classic onomasiological concept of word-formation and the need for further utilization of its cognitional and applicative potential. Dokulil's contribution is based on a precise definition of certain terms (onomasiological categories, word-formative type, formant) which are the underlying terms of his concept. Furthermore, Dokulil's knowledge about the predictability of a lexical meaning (1978) is remarkable. He was aware that the predictability of a lexical meaning is mainly about the dynamics of the relations between a word-formative and a lexical meaning created by the language users. The theoretical and methodological concept of word-formation by Dokulil is of universal validity. Numerous monographs and studies prove its applicability in the intralingual and interlingual research of word-formation. His theoretical and methodological autograph is present in the works of many Central European linguists, particularly from the former Czechoslovakia and former German Democratic Republic, for example Wolfgang Fleischer and Irmhild Barz (1992), Juraj Dolník (1993), Patrik Mitter (2003), Juraj Furdik (1993, 2004), Martin Olostiak (2013, 2015a, 2015b) and Ladislav Sisak (2013), who were and/or still are inspired by him in the area of intralingual and interlingual research.

Denominal adjectives in Slovak and German

The meaning of an adjective, as opposed to the meaning of nouns and verbs, is determined by the relationship with its direct environment. Determination of a meaning of an adjective is mostly possible when it figures as a constituent of a particular lexical collocation with a noun. Its meaning may still not be clear in this case. In syntagms such as *hrošia koža*, *bezodná studňa* or *bezodná diera* we cannot identify whether a qualitative or a relational adjective is used without knowing the broader context of the utterance.

Observing that the meaning of an adjective is determined according to the relationship with its environment, it naturally follows that most of the adjective suffixes in Slovak and German are polyfunctional. One and the same word-formative formant is a part of adjectives with several word-formative meanings. A word-formative formant with only one meaning is rather rare. A combined prefixal-suffixal word-formative formant “bez-” and “-ný” expresses in Slovak “an absence, lack of something” (*bezvýsledný*). The German suffix “-los” is monofunctional in the same way (*ergebnislos*).

Mutant types of denominal adjectives are formed when a notion class of characteristics enters in relationship with a notion class of substances.

The morphological structure of denominal adjective word-formative morphemes is heterogeneous. Nábělková (1993, p. 35) classifies adjectives into following types:

- a) “-n” type with its variants: *-ný* (*nočný*), *-ený* (*drevený*), *-telný* (*hmatateľný*);
- b) “-v” type with its variants: *-avý* (*krvavý*), *-ivý* (*vrtošivý*), *-livý* (*spolahlivý*), *-ový* (*vodový*);
- c) “-k” type with its variants: *-ský* (*morský*), *-ký* (*robotnícky*), *-ický* (*chemický*), *-atický* (*dramatický*), *-anský*, *-iansky* (*tatranský*, *detviarsky*) *-ovský* (*otcovský*), *-inský* (*materinský*), *-enský* (*mocenský*);
- d) “-t” type with its variants: *-atý* (*bruchatý*), *-natý*, *-itý* (*blanitý*), *-astý* (*hlinastý*), *-istý* (*močaristý*), *-utý* (*tekutý*);
- e) “-š” type with its variants: *-ňajší* (*pondelňajší*).

The most productive variants for creating denominal relational adjectives are “-ový”, “-ný”, “-ský”.

Kühnhold, Putzer and Wellmann (1978) classify as the most productive domestic word-formative suffixes for adjective derivation the following:

- a) “-en” and its variant “-ern” (*hölzern*);
- b) “-haft” (*meisterhaft*);
- c) “-isch” (*dramatisch*);
- d) “-lich” (*brüderlich*).

The most productive foreign suffixes in German are:

- a) “-ant” (*charmant*);
- b) “-ent” (*ellegant*);
- c) “-iv” (*spekulativ*);
- d) “-oid” (*faschistoid*);
- e) “-ös” (*religiös*).

Mutant types of denominal adjectives are a part of the following word-formative categories:

- a) “someone (something) who (which) has the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word”;
- b) “someone (something) who (which) lacks the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word”;
- c) “someone (something) who (which) has a characteristic similar to the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word”.

Adjectives which belong to the word-formative category of “someone (something) who (which) has the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” are derived in both languages from nouns denoting:

- a) natural phenomena (*sol* > *solný*, *Salz* > *salzig*);
- b) material substances which can stain an object surface (*špina* > *špinavý Schmutz* > *schmutzig*);
- c) weather conditions (*dážď* > *daždívý*, *dažd'ový*, *Regen* > *regnerisch*);
- d) geographic names (*Európa* > *európsky*, *Europa* > *europäisch*);
- e) time and season (*leto* > *letný*, *Sommer* > *sommerlich*);

- f) an area (*štvorec* > *štvorcový*, *Quadrat* > *quadratisch*);
 g) persons (*Štúr* > *štúrovec*, *Hegel* > *hegelianisch*).

Adjectives belonging to this word-formative category are in Slovak derived also from nouns denoting:

- a) line and weight measures (*meter* > *metrový*, *kilo* > *kilový*);
 b) animals and other living beings (*mača* > *mačací*).

The word-formative category of “someone (something) who (which) lacks the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” comprises in both languages adjectives derived from a motivating word denoting:

- a) persons (*Kinder* > *kinderlos*);
 b) manmade or natural materials (*Koffein* > *koffeinfrei*);
 c) abstract nouns (*Ergebnis* > *ergebnislos*).

Adjectives belonging to this category are formed in each language differently – by a prefixal-suffixal process in Slovak and by suffixation in German:

<i>bezdetný</i> – <i>kinderlos</i>	<i>bezkonkurenčný</i> – <i>konkurrenzlos</i>
<i>bezmyšlienkový</i> – <i>gedankenlos</i>	<i>bezhraničný</i> – <i>grenzenlos</i> .

The given examples show that the structure of the motivating words is different. The form of the base word in Slovak is a prepositional phrase (*bez hraníc*, *bez myšlienky*), the motivating words in German are single words (*Grenze*, *Konkurrenz*). It is impossible in some cases to derive the corresponding adjective from the prepositional phrase:

Mühe > *müheles bez námahy* > ?

Based on the previous text the reader might obtain an impression that the occurrence of denominal adjectives is comparable in both languages. The semantic extent of nouns – motivating words is only slightly higher in Slovak. The occurrence of lexical collocations with the structure adjective + noun is considerably lower. This fact mirrors the prevalence of an analytic approach by explicit type of naming in Slovak and a polysynthetic approach in German. Nouns in German enter into the formal and semantic structure of derived words infrequently. They become a part of a compound word significantly more often and they act as one of its motivating words:

lesný mravec – *Waldameise* *lesný požiar* – *Waldbrand*
lesný robotník – *Waldarbeiter* *lesný porast* – *Waldbestand*.

Coexistence of systematization in German is extensively spread. One and the same referent has two appellations – as a compound word and as a lexical collocation:

waldige Einsamkeit – *Waldeinsamkeit* – *lesná samota*
waldiges Areal – *Waldareal* – *lesný areál*

This kind of coexistence of systematizations, as mentioned above, is in Slovak considerably more limited (*lesný park* – *lesopark*).

We cannot substitute a lexical collocation with a compound only in certain individual cases. For example a syntagm *waldiges Tal* has no synonymous compound word *Waldtal*.

Besides, there are lexical collocations in German which have only putative synonymous relationships with compound words. There is a structural relationship in a syntagm *hölzerner Weg* (road with a wooden structure). The compound *Holzweg* represents a purpose relationship (road used for the transport of wood).

The word-formative potential of nouns denoting names of animals and other living beings in the two languages is disjunctively different. In Slovak, the generic – animal adjectives are derived from these nouns. The formation of animal adjectives of the model “pávi” (Furdik, 2004, p. 68) is paradigmatically productive. Less frequent are adjectives of “-áci” type which are grammatically conditioned as they are derived from nouns denoting animals in the neuter gender (*mača* > *mačáci*, *prasa* > *prasáci*). In German, the names of animals and other living beings become motivating words in the first part of the compound words to qualify the second part of the compound (*Pfauenauge*, *Pfauenfeder*).

The word-formative category of “someone (something) who (which) has a characteristic similar to the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” comprises adjectives derived from:

- a) animals (*Katze* > *katzig*, *katzenhaft*; *mača* > *mačáci*);
- b) persons (*mafán* > *mafianský*, *Mafioso* > *mafios*).

While derivation in word-formative categories of “someone (something) who (which) has the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” and “someone (something) who (which) lacks the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” is based on an implicative relationship between the motivating and the motivated word, derivation in the word-formative category “someone (something) who (which) has a characteristic similar to the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word” is based on a fictional classification. Certain characteristics (features) of a human being are compared with (likened to) the characteristics of animals. In the lexical collocation *schweinerisches Benehmen* the human behaviour is likened to the behaviour of an animal; in the lexical collocation *bärrige Figur (Stimme)* the appearance (mood) of a human is likened to the appearance (mood) of an animal; syntagm *katzig (katzenhafte, katzenartige) Bewegung* represents a comparison of a person's movement to a movement of an animal, *esselhafte Natur* is a comparison of a human nature to a nature of an animal and *affiges Lachen* compares an outer human behaviour to the behaviour of a specific animal (Fleischer – Barz, 1992, p. 264). Qualitative adjectives present in these lexical collocations bear a negative or a positive evaluation meaning. They are created by adding the formants “-haft”, “-isch”, “-mäßig” to the given word-formative base.

In Slovak semantic derivation is in progress, where a relational adjective changes into a qualitative adjective without changing its form.

mačacie oči (eyes which belong to a cat) – relational adjective

mačacie oči (eyes of a person which are similar in colour or shape to eyes of a cat) – qualitative adjective

Certain “occupational” names (*Mafioso*, *dictator*, *professor*) are in the position of the motivating word in the word-formative category “someone (something) who (which) has a characteristic similar to the characteristic of the notion denoted by the motivating word”. In sport journalism there is a syntagm *podat profesorský výkon*, i.e. a performance compared to the (excellent) performance of a professor. In German there is no lexicalization of the title *Professor*, or *Lehrer* in this sense. A quasi-equivalent of this syntagm in German might be *eine Meisterschaftsleistung (Championsleistung) aufstellen*. Relationships based on comparison are present in syntagms *jeho diktátorské správanie* (behave like a dictator), *používať mafianske praktiky* (use practices similar to mafia practices). These syntagms have their German equivalents - *sein diktatorisches Benehmen*, and a lexical collocation of several words - *sich wie ein Mafioso benehmen*. Based on the analysis of a limited number of the “occupational” names in both languages we

arrived at the limited conclusion that denominal adjectives of this type of word-formative meaning are used more often in Slovak.

Semantic relationships in syntagms and compound words

At the beginning of this study it was mentioned that it is usually necessary to know the noun connected to the adjective when determining the meaning of the adjective. Subsequently it is said that Slovak lexical collocations consisting of an adjective and a noun have their semantic equivalents in German compound words. Following this reasoning, it is meaningful to answer the following questions: 1) What kind of semantic relationships exist between elements which form a syntagm and between elements in compound words? 2) Are there any differences between semantic relationships within a syntagm and within a compound word?

Concerning the first question we are reminded that the research on semantic relationships already has its tradition in the scope of intra- and interlingual comparison. Several linguists have identified similar semantic relationships independently from each other. The existing inventory of semantic relationships is not finite. It has not yet been possible to identify unambiguously exactly categorized semantic relationships or, in some cases, not at all for many syntagms and compound words. After all it is not even possible if we perceive language as a constant creation in the spirit of Humboldt's "Energiea". Ohnheiser (1987) introduces an extensive inventory of word-formative semantic relationships between the components of German compound words. At the same time he proves with individual examples that the semantic relationships in German compound word are present in equivalent Russian syntagms.

In this subsection we intend to draw the reader's attention to the identification of semantic relationships in Slovak syntagms (noun + adjective) and in German compound words. The basis of this comparative analysis is the semantic relationships inventory according to Furdik (2004) and Ohnheiser (1987). We do not review all the relationships and we do not discuss some of the semantic relationships because, from our point of view, they are vague. For example the semantic relationship "adjectives with the meaning of regard" (Furdik, 2004) is too general. We are trying to specify, or concretize, the notions of semantic relationships in some cases, in other cases we present semantic relationships which were not mentioned by Furdik (2004) or by Ohnheiser (1987).

1) Local meaning

- a) A is located in B (*lesná cesta – Waldweg, mestská štvrť – Stadtviertel*),
- b) A is happening in B (*domáce úloha – Hausaufgabe, záhradné práce – Gartenarbeiten*),
- c) A comes from B (*morské plody – Meeresfrüchte, lesné plody – Walderbeere, lesný med – Waldhonig, kvetný med – Blumenhonig, orientálny koberec – orientalischer Teppich*). A might contain various kinds of geographic names:
 - A = name of a state (*americké auto – amerikanisches Auto*),
 - A = name of a town (*plzeňské pivo – Pilsner Urquell*),
 - A = name of a continent (*ázijská ryža – asiatischer Reis*),
 - A = name of a river (*amazónske zlato – amazonisches Gold*).

2) Temporal meaning

- a) A is taking place during B (*stredňajšie predstavenie – Mittwochvorstellung, ranný tréning – Morgentraining*).
- b) A lasts as long as B (*denný lístok – Tageskarte, dovolenkový program – Urlaubsprogramm*).

3) Purpose meaning

A is convenient for B

- a) B = place (*plážová košeľa – Strandhemd*),
- b) B = time (*zimné topánky – Winterschuhe*),
- c) B = object, material (*solníčka – Salzdose*),
- d) B = living being (*hostovská izba – Gästezimmer*).

We develop the semantic relationship:

- e) B = particular activity (*prístupová cesta – Zutrittsweg, operačná sála – Operationsaal, poľovnícke združenie – Jagdverband*),
- f) B = particular event (*plesové účes – Ballfrisur, maturitný oblek – Ballanzug*).

4) Cause

B causes A

B = agent (*vtáci spev – Vogelgesang*). This syntagm also expresses “possessive meaning”, or the meaning “noticeable sign”.

5) Similarity

A is similar to B (*psie počasie – Hundeswetter, slimačie tempo – Schnecken tempo*).

6) Possession

Possession might be from our point of view differentiated as follows:

a) possession based on certain legal relationships:

B belongs due to ownership to A (*obecné byty – Gemeindewohnungen*),

B belongs due to occupancy to A (*vodičský preukaz – Führerschein*),

B belongs due to service to A (*prezidentská kancelária – Präsidentenkanzlei*),

b) possession which reflects a social appreciation of the notion denoted by the motivating word (*Deň učiteľov – Lehrertag*),

c) possession determined by the laws of nature:

B belongs according to the laws of nature to A (*konská hlava – Pferdekopf*). In the case of *Pferdekopf*, it might also mean a “comparison”, e.g. *mať hlavu ako kôň* (size or shape of the head),

d) possession determined by the activity results of individuals:

B belongs to A based on the activity results of A (*Budhovo učenie – Budhas Lehre*).

7) Structure

a) B = material, fabric (*kožený kabát – Ledermantel, zlatá mince – Goldmünze, goldene Münze*),

b) B = individual elements (*kvetinový záhon – Blumenbeet, syrový tanier – Käseteller*,

orientálny koberec – orientalischer Teppich),

c) B = living beings (*zasadnutie poslancov – Abgeordnetenberatung, prezidentský samit –*

Präsidentensummit, mužský zbor – Männerchor).

8) B is a theme about A

(*literárna veda – Literaturwissenschaft*).

9) Tool

B is a tool for A (*plynový pedal – Gaspedal*).

10) Production

A manufactures or produces B (*knižný producent – Bücherproduzent*).

11) A (explicit agent) does something with B
(*novinová predajcovia – Zeitungsverkäufer*).

12) B is affected by A (in Slovak), A is affected by B (in German)
(*spracovanie dát – Dateiverarbeitung*).

13) Something is happening to B
(*zemetrásenie – Erdbeben*).

14) Identity

A specifies the identity of B (*mužská osoba – Männerperson*).

15) Instrument of creation and instrument of action

a) instrument of creation

A expresses by means of what was B created (*strojový výrobok –
Maschinenerzeugnis*,

elektronický podpis – elektronische Unterschrift),

b) instrument of action

A expresses through what B takes place (*internetový predaj –
Internetverkauf*).

16) Origin

A expresses the origin of B. Origin of B might be:

a) ethnic (*slovenskí remeselníci – slowakische Handwerker*),

b) social (*rolnícka rodina – Bauerfamilie, adlige Familie – šľachtická rodina*),

c) religious (*baptistická rodina – baptistische Familie*).

17) Characteristic feature

A is a characteristic feature of B (*daždivé počasie – regnerisches Wetter,
slimačie tempo – Schnecken tempo*).

18) Measure

A determines the measure (length, weight, etc.) of B (*metrová tyč – ein meterlanger
Stab*).

The presented inventory of semantic relationships is not finite. The inventory might arouse discussion about the determination of semantic relationships within syntagms and compound words. Naturally, new semantic relationships, which do not exist yet, might arise within syntagms and compound words. Currently there are several semantic relationships within them. We purposely presented some syntagms and compounds as examples which have more than one meaning. Interlingual and semantically equivalent syntagms *orientálny koberec – orientalischer Teppich* express a local meaning, i.e. where the carpet comes from, and a structure meaning, i.e. of what material (design) the carpet is. This example is similar to the syntagm *slimačie tempo* and the compound word *Schnecken tempo*, where we can find a characteristic feature and a similarity.

Deadjectival adjectives

Deadjectival adjectives modify (weaken, intensify and negate) the meaning of the quality described by a motivating word. The modification of the meaning is realized in both languages through:

- a) suffixation (*zelený* > *zelenkavý*, *chorý* > *chorlavý*, *grün* > *grünlich*, *krank* > *kränklich*);
- b) prefixation (*čistotný* > *nečistotný*, *modern* > *supermoderný*, *aktívny* > *hyperaktívny*, *reinlich* > *unreinlich*, *modern* > *supermodern*, *aktiv* > *hyperaktiv*).

This interlingual word-forming analogy is not a common phenomenon because Slovak is more inflected than German. That is the reason why the German equivalents of deadjectival adjectives in Slovak are often formed by different word formation modes and processes.

German equivalents of Slovak prefixal derivatives are:

- a) multiword expressions (*prekrásny* – *sehr schön*, *priveľký* – *zu gross*, *drobnučký* – *winzig klein*);
- b) compounds (*dlhokánsky*, *dlhočizný* – *baumlang*).

German equivalents of Slovak prefixal-suffixal derivatives are:

- a) suffixal derivatives (*starý* > *postarší*, *alt* > *ältlich*);
- b) multiword expressions (*nasprostastý* – *ein wenig dumm*, *nahluchlý* – *ein wenig stumm*);
- c) compounds (*nahluchlý* – *schwerhörig*).

Equivalents of Slovak suffixal derivatives are German multiword expressions (*drobnučký* – *winzig klein*).

The derivational potential of the deadjectival adjectives is significantly limited. Deadjectival adjectives are often passive in word formation in both languages.

veľký > *priveľký* >> *0 faul* > *faulig* >> *0*.

The Slovak language as a system enables the expression of the multiple intensification of a quality described by a motivating word (*malý* > *maličký* >> *maličičký*; *slabý* > *slabučký* > *slabučičký*); in German, it is not possible to modify an expression that has already been modified to make a stylistic mark.

In Slovak, it is also possible to derive transpositional types of deadjectival adverbs:

slabý > *poslabší* >> *poslabšie* *dlhý* >
dlhočizný >> *dlhočizne*.

In both languages, it is possible to derive deadjectival adverbs and deadjectival abstract nouns on a case-by-case basis:

hluchý > *nahluchlý* >> *nahluchlost'* *klein* > *kleinlich*
 >> *kleinlich*
>> *nahluchlo*
 >> *Kleinlichkeit*.

In certain cases, it is also possible to derive by mutation the verbs meaning “become (the meaning of an adjective)”:

chorý > *chorlavý* >> *chorlavo* *weich* > *weichlich* >> *Weichlichkeit*
>> *chorlaviet'* >> *verweichlichen*
>> *chorlavost'* >> *unweichlich*.

The meaning of some deadjectival adjectives combined with personal names may be an excessive tendency to be occupied with certain facts or a tendency to have exaggerated reaction to external stimuli. For example, the phrase *ein kleinlicher Mensch* describes a person with a tendency to be occupied with unimportant things. Its Slovak equivalent is *puntičkár*. The adjective *weichlich* combined with *ein weichlicher Mann* describes the oversensitiveness of a male. The Slovak equivalent of the German syntagm is „zoženštený“ muž.

Deadjectival adjectives meaning “a tendency to something” sometimes occur in negative expressions in which they function as root words (*čistý* > *čistotný* >> *nečistotný*, *rein* > *reinlich* >> *unreinlich*). These expressions are produced by a speaker of a language in order not to offend a receiver of information. However, in both languages antonyms are more often used to “negate a tendency to something” (*puntičkársky* – *veľkorýsy*, *kleinlich* – *großzügig*).

Deverbal adjectives

Deverbal adjectives are formed by transposition and mutation of a verb (motivating word) and the meaning of a quality expressed by the adjective is the same as the action of the verb.

“Processual adjectives” expressing the action that is currently taking place, are the result of a motivating word being changed into a quality by transposition of action. They are created by adding particular suffixes to the present transgressive (*spiaci chlapec* – *der schlafende Junge*, *parkujúce auto* – *das parkende Auto*, *smejúca sa žena* – *die lachende Frau*).

“Passive resultative adjectives” expressing the quality that resulted from an action carried out upon a word, are created by transposition in both languages, too. Gender suffixes are being added to the past participle (*uplynulý mesiac* – *der vergangene Monat*, *očakávané ťažkosti* – *die erwarteten Schwierigkeiten*).

In Slovak as well as in German it is possible to form deverbal adjectives carrying the meaning “to possess a quality that resulted from an action that is not currently taking place” (*liečiteľná choroba* – *die heilbare Krankheit*). The adjectives carrying this meaning are more frequent in Slovak. In German language, their equivalents are denominal adjectives, compounds and also the aforementioned deverbal adjectives:

kočovní národ – *nomadisches Volk*, *Nomadenvolk*
panovačný človek – *herrischer Mensch*, *herrschtüchtiger Mensch*.

In some cases, prefixure of particular deverbal adjectives of a certain semantic group takes place. They are translated by description into German:

uvravený, rozvravený človek – *der Mensch, der zu viel spricht*
uponáhľaná žena – *die Frau, die sich zu viel beeilt*.

The frequency of occurrence of deverbal adjectives carrying the meaning “the quality resulting from the possibility of an action being carried out upon a word” (*ovplyvňiteľný človek* – *der beeinflussbare Mensch*, *uskutočniteľný zámer* – *durchführbare Absicht*) is the same in both languages.

In Slovak, it is also possible to derive from verbs “purpose adjectives describing the qualities that resulted from the ability to help to carry out an action”. Their German equivalents are usually not deverbal adjectives, compounds are much more frequent:

ošetrujúci lekár – der behandelnde Arzt
čistiaci saponát – Reinigungsmittel
bicie nástroje – Schlaginstrumente
zasadacia miestnosť – Beratungsraum
písací stól – Schreibtisch
šijací stolík – Nähtischen.

Some adjectives with the suffix *-bar* may carry an evaluative meaning expressed explicitly in Slovak:

*das lesbare Buch – kniha, ktorá sa **dobre** číta*
*die hörbare Musik – hudba, ktorá sa **príjemne** počúva.*

Some adjectives with the suffix *-lich* carry an evaluative meaning as well (between *-bar* and *-lich* there is a relation of synonymic competition related to evaluative meanings of words):

*die erklärliche Situation – situácia, ktorú možno **ľahko** vysvetliť.*

In German texts possibility adjectives ending with *-bar* have a special function—compression of complex sentences and variations of expression (Ohnheiser, 1987). In the Slovak language, a new type of possibility, deverbals, has this function. Abstract nouns, or rather negative adjectives and negative abstract nouns, are derived from them.

wegen Unlesbarkeit der Regierung – pre nečitateľnosť vlády
wegen Unhörbarkeit seiner Schritte – pre nepočuteľnosť jeho krokov.

Sometimes it is hard to find an equivalent to syntagms containing negative abstract nouns that express several degrees of comparison of derivatives of adjectives with suffix *-bar*. The equivalents are usually syntagms with a completely different structure.

wegen Unbespielbarkeit des Platzes – pre nepriaznivý terén.

The ability of deverbal adjectives to bind with nominal constituents such as a direct or indirect object (both of them describe a grammatical agent of an action) is quite frequent in both languages:

vzduchom chladený – luftgekühlt *rukou kreslený – handgemalt*
snehom pokrytý – schneebedeckt *rozumovo nadaný – vernunftbegabt.*

These syntagms are often considered compounds. Their invariability and reproducibility are supported by the fact that they are written as a one word (*mnohosľubný – vielversprechend*). There are many syntagms (compounds) that we cannot find in dictionaries which is a proof of how easy it is to create them.

In German, there are also complex adjectives whose determining component is an adjective and whose basic component is a deverbal adjective. Their Slovak equivalents are simple deverbal adjectives:

reichhaltiger Frühstück – bohaté raňajky.

Prefixure of a verbal root word of a motivating word is possible as well. In addition to that, in the following paradigm it is also possible to see that in Slovak transposition of a quality into a circumstance is also shown in the form of a derivative.

kryt' > skryt' >> skrytý >>> skrytosť
 >>> *skryte*

In both languages, nominal names of qualities with abstractness and regularity of formation as their characteristic features, are derived from deverbal adjectives:

<i>tiect' > tekutý >> tekutosť</i>	<i>fliessen > fliessbar >> Fließbarkeit</i>
<i>jest' > jedlý >> jedlosť</i>	<i>essen > essbar >> Essbarkeit</i>
<i>mľčať > mľčanlivý >> mľčanlivosť</i>	<i>schweigen > schweigsam >></i>
<i>Schweigsamkeit</i>	
<i>milovať' > zamilovať' sa >></i>	<i>lieben > verlieben >> verliebt</i>
<i>>>>Verliebtheit.</i>	
<i>zamilovaný' >>> zamilovanosť</i>	

Except for abstract nouns, sometimes deadjectival negative names are derived by modification and afterwards negative deadjectival abstract nouns are derived from them:

liek > liečiť' sa >> liečiteľný >>> liečiteľnosť
 >>> *neliečiteľný >>>> neliečiteľnosť*

heil > heilen >> heilbar >>> Heilbarkeit
 >>> *unheilbar >>>> Unheilbarkeit.*

Conclusion

In this article we focused on identification and interpretation of agreements, similarities and differences in the formation of denominal, deadjectival and deverbal adjectives in Slovak and German. In conclusion, we put forward the following observations:

- a) Many differences in the formation of denominal, deadjectival and deverbal adjective relate to the different characteristics of the Slovak and German languages.
- b) The elements forming particular syntagms and the elements forming particular compounds often share the same semantic relations. The type of expressions used to express these relations in a certain language depends only on the characteristics of languages. On the other hand, there are many examples confirming that the relations in a syntagm are different from the relations in a compound. Neither Slovak, nor German, has a completed stock of semantic relations among particular elements of syntagms and compounds. We realize that some of the semantic relations are not clearly specified as a term.
- c) Different word formation processes are used when forming deadjectival nouns carrying the meaning "someone (something) who (that) does not have the quality described by the motivating word". From the interlingual point of view, even the structure of their motivating words is different.
- d) In German, synonymic competition is very frequent. In terms of meaning, compounds compete with analytical expressions such as adjectives + noun.

- e) Deadjectival adjectives modify the meaning of their motivating word. In Slovak, they are more frequent because Slovak is more inflected than German. In German, they are mostly replaced by multiword expressions and compounds.
- f) The derivational potential of deadjectival adjectives does not support systematisation in the word formation of the compared languages. Deadjectival adjectives are either passive in word formation or the possibility to derive particular word-forming meanings varies depending on the case.
- g) Deverbal adjectives represent a class with heterogeneous meanings. In Slovak, they are more frequent than in German. In Slovak, not only denominal adjectives, but also deverbal adjectives are frequent because the Slovak language is highly inflected.
- h) In both languages “deadjectival nouns describing the names of qualities” with abstractness as their characteristic feature are derived from deverbal adjectives. In certain cases, deadjectival adjectives carrying the meaning “negative names” are derived and then “deadjectival nouns—negatives” are formed by another step in the process of derivation.
- i) Many observations, pointing out the differences in word formation in the Slovak and German languages, go beyond linguistic research and may serve as an instrumentarium in the area of Translation Studies, e.g., during translation of some deverbal adjectives from Slovak into German.

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