

SYNTAGMATIC DERIVATION IN LEGAL FRENCH: NOTIONS OF SYNAPTATION AND SYNAPSIE

Nina Cuciuc*

Abstract

The theoretical concept advanced by E. Benveniste contributed to the acknowledgement of a special status for lexical syntagmas as units of functioning within the discourse and the language. Starting from the Benevistian postulate of synapsy, we define a new procedure of lexical formation – synaptation – which we designate as a basic procedure in the syntagmatic derivation in our technical scientific languages.

We have found that synaptation is the most productive procedure in the formation of terms in specialty languages, because it turns out to be a complex denotative construction, which allows for the detailed specification of the designate and for the series classification by their distinctive features.

Keywords: legal language, synaptation, sinapsy, synaptic junctors

*Nina Cuciuc, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at “Mihail Kogălniceanu” University, Iași, Romania; contact: nina_cuciuc@yahoo.com

Terminology is the most important part of specialized vocabulary because it actively contributes to the formation, accumulation, synthetization and socialization of science on the essence of things, phenomena, and processes in nature and in society.

Our intention to conduct the investigation in the area of French legal terminology was determined by certain unclear, controversial aspects in the process of browsing through the specialized literature regarding the procedures of word formation within the creation of lexical units. What was of relevance for us was the structural – semantic relationship, deemed essential in the indication of the linguistic status of constitution of terminological syntagmatic derivatives. The actuality of the theme under investigation is motivated by the controversial perspectives with regard to the problem of syntactic composition and by the absence of a plausible study pertaining to this subject. Among the linguists who investigated lexical syntagm, alias lexical derivatives, alias analytisms there has been no unanimity of opinion as far as the notional designation of these syntagmatic units is concerned, which, are erroneously equivalent until now with the composition or the periphrases. The object of our paper was the definition of the formation procedure and the identification of the linguistic statute of the terminological lexical syntagms. The first linguist who traced the linguistic background of the structuralist theory related to the definition of the complex lexical unit was Emile Benveniste (1966). The theoretic concept formulated by E. Benveniste has contributed to the recognition of a separate statute for the syntagmatic terms as functioning units of discourse and language, a concept which examines the formation process of lexical syntagms and their transfer from the sphere of the utterance (*le discursif*) to the sphere of the vocabulary (*le lexical*). By presenting whole groups of lexemes, linked by various procedures which make up a constant and specific designation and which have a considerable extent and unlimited productivity, E. Benveniste remarked the specific phenomenon, stating that a new term is necessary, other than composition: „il s'agit précisément de quelque chose d'autre que la composition, distinct aussi de „**syntagme**, pour laisser à „**syntagme**” sa désignation propre qui s'applique à n'importe quel groupement, même occasionnel, opéré par des moyens syntaxiques, alors que nous voyons ici une unité fixe. Nous proposons à cette fin un terme qui semble adéquat et clair: **SINAPSIE**” (Benveniste, 1966, p. 92).

Starting from the benvenistic postulate of „**synapsy**”, we define a new procedure of lexical formation – synaptation – designating it as a basic procedure in the syntagmatic derivation within terminologies (scientific technical language). **Synapsies**, par excellence complex lexical units of nomenclatures, are also found in legal terminology. Through scientific research and technical inventory we have seen that in the French legal language the basic procedure in word formation **synaptation**, while the fundamental syntagmatic unit is the **synapsy**. As a linguistic term for notional designation, the synapsy refers to complex lexical units, alias lexical syntagms, alias syntagmatic derivatives from the technical scientific language and its nomenclatures. Technical language call on the process of synaptation because, **synapsy is the only instrument that allows the detailed specification of the referent and the classification of the series through their distinctive features**. **Synapsy** should not necessarily comprise only the technical

lexemes, but also lexical units from the common language, but synaptically ordered. We define **synapsy** as a **fixed lexical syntagm, with a constant and specific designation characterized by paradigmatic flexibility, consisting of a determinant and a determined object, reunited (or not) by junction factors.** Within the syntagmatic derivation we have revealed several categories of synaptic constructions. **According to the degree of synaptability, synapsies are divided into: a) monosynapsies; b) disynapsies; c) polysynapsies.**

MONOSYNAPSIES

The relationship with the object is essential in synaptic designations, argues E. Benveniste. By analyzing the synapsies, the linguist believes that it is carried out either by means of: 1) qualifiers; or: 2) by means of members with a different structure, linked by factors of junction, called synaptic ligaments (*de* and *à* being the most frequent). During this investigation we studied the synaptic creations formed by means of qualifiers. E. Benveniste has signaled this synaptic formation, without underlining it under the aspect of linguistic analysis. Or, the synapsy being considered par excellence the instrument of technical language, it also bears witness of lexical combinations constructed without synaptic ligament. Thus, these **synaptic formations** are also the object of the study within the process of synaptation. Another argument in the recognition of the statute of **disjoint synapsies** is found in the concept of synapsy itself, elaborated by E. Benveniste, when he asserted that “*the synapsy may provide possible compounds: mono-di-polisynaptii*” (*op. cit.*, p. 146). The determiner, within a synapsy, takes an adjectival form most of the times. The adjective determiner forms, together with the determined noun, synapsies, constructed by means of qualifiers. We believe that **synapsies made up of two independent lexemes can be linked to the term of monosynapsy. Thus, monosynapsy is a synapsy made up of two simple members: determiner – determined.** We believe that the group of monosynapsies may be classified in three synaptic subcategories: a) **monosynapsy without junction (without synaptic ligament)** made up of a combination of two simple members, determiner + determined (for instance: *droit commun, droit civil, droit public*): the determiner being the primary term by means of which the synaptic paradigm of the independent lexical units is constituted, which becomes, by synaptation, explicit combinations of specialized language; b) **monosynapsy with junction** (monosynapsy with synaptic ligament). Monosynapsies with synaptic ligament are terminological syntagms, created by means of members of different structure and linked by factors of junction such as: *de; à; en; par; dans; sans; hors; etc.*, called by L. Guilbert (1975) „prepositional jonctors”, such as: *droit du travail, droit de l’auteur, droit au bail, action en justice jugement sur le fond, jugement par défaut, homicide par imprudence, assurance contre le vol, tribunal pour mineurs, audience sous caution, fraude entre copartageants, vol avec efraction, mise hors de cause, etc.*); c) **paratactic monosynapsy**: the research conducted revealed a terminological construction of the type **N1 + N2**. The structural model of these synapsies imitate the procedure of parataxis, for instance: *contrat cadre; contrat type; donation partage; assurance maladie; assurance vie; assurance automobile; assurance caution; société mère; voie mère; syndicat maison; syndicat ouvriers; Code*

Napoléon; Code Justinien; etc. Their syntagmatic structure reveals, more recently, the model of additional compounding, without a prepositional marker. This syntagmatic type seems to be related to the syntagmatic units within the monosynapsy without junction (**N + A**). The adjective would be, in this case, the product of syntagmatic adjectival derivation, by suffixal transformation of the determiner, for instance:

contrat type = contrat typique

assurance vie = assurance vitale etc.

Or it may be related to the structural variant of the monosynapsy with junction, type **N1 + jonctor + N2**, for instance:

donation partage = donation de partage

assurance maladie = assurance de maladie

syndicat ouvriers = syndicat des ouvriers etc.

By the suppression of the junction elements, these monosynapsies express a relation of simple parataxis. As one can notice, the absence of junction elements is also common in the case of syntagmatic units such as *Code Napoléon, Code Justinien, Code Santé publique*. It is the case of units made up of a basic term that designates a product and the determiner, made up of a proper name (for instance: *dictionnaire Larousse; voiture Renault*). We call thus type of functioning type of lexical syntagm, within specialized language (French legal language, in this case) **paratactic monosynapsy**. The research conducted by us related to the process of formation of terminological syntagmatic units (synapsies) in French legal language allowed us to assess the following fact: **the absence of nominal flexion doesn't play an important part in the syntactic composition**, while its presence cannot be deemed mandatory in the process of synaptability. When we state that the terminological syntagmatic unit *abandon de famille* is a synapsy, we shall also include in the category of synapsis the lexical syntagm *abandon d'un nouveau-né* or *abandon du navire*. In this context we can conclude that the fifth characteristic of the synapsy described by E. Benveniste is of an optional nature.

DISYNAPSY – SYNAPSY WITH TWO SYNAPTIC MEMBERS

E. Benveniste also distinguishes, beside the simple synapsy, the **synapsy with two members**. We shall call the synapsy with two synaptic members disinapsy, based on the benvenistic scientific argumentation quoted below: „*Thus, unlike **garde-malade**, which is a compound, **gardien d'asile** is a synapsy; **asile de nuit** is another one, while the combination **gardien d'asile de nuit** forms a new synapsy with two members: the former is a simple one, **gardien**, while the latter is synaptic itself, **asile de nuit**, and which, in this case, we shall call 'subsynchronic'*”. (Benveniste, 2000, p. 146). According to the synaptic formula suggested by the author, in the synapsy *gardien d'asile de nuit* we differentiate two synaptic members: the first member, *gardien*, is a simple member, while the second, *asile de nuit*, is called subsynaptic member. This reference as “subsynchronic member” is related to the determiner of the synapsy. The junction element, states the linguist, fulfills a double function in a synapsy and equally bears denomination modifications: a) synaptic ligament in (*gardien*) **d'asile**; b) subsynaptic ligament in (*d'asile de nuit*).

The parameters of the disynapsy traced by the authors aim the tri-member synapsy, but which contains the combination of the synaptic member (or the simple member) with the subsynaptic member. Disynapsy requires this double relationship between the members of the synapsy: **synapticity** and **subsynchronicity**. The research conducted on the French legal language determine us to state that the disynapsy may be formed, according to the degree of synadaptability, in two ways: **1) disynapsy consisting of a single simple member + one subsynaptic member** and ; **2) disynapsy formed of a synaptic member + a subsynaptic member**. We distinguished between two categories of disynapsies, depending on the absence or presence of the junction element within the first member of the disynapsy.

The first category includes disynapsis whose member is formed by means of qualifiers. The basic pattern of these disynapsies shows three models of structure;

a) **N + A1 + A2** (noun + adjective + adjective): *amortissement réputé différé; casier judiciaire chargé; casier judiciaire vierge; apport partiel actif; assemblée générale ordinaire; assemblée générale plénière*, etc. (see Annex 7);

b) **N + A + conj. "et" + A2** (noun + first adjective + conjunction „et” + the second adjective): *administration pure et simple; amortissement accéléré et exceptionnel; apport franc et quitte*, etc. (see Annex 8);

c) **N1 + A + jonctor + N2** (first noun + adjective + jonctor + second noun): *acte introductif d'instance; application cummulative des lois; application distributive des lois* etc. (see Annex 9). This model shows a small number of disynapsies. What is relevant is the attestation of both ways of synaptic grouping. Disynapsies: *administrateur représentant des salariés; héritiers premiers appelés; agent huissier du Trésor; enfant pupille d'Etat; lettre recommandée simple; dommages et intérêts compensatoires; dommages et intérêts moratoires; dommages et intérêts dissuasifs*, - form synapsy by:

a) combination of a **simple member** and a **subsynchronic member**:

simple member + subsynchronic member

administrateur + représentant des salariés

héritiers + premiers appelés

agent + huissier du Trésor

enfant + pupille de l'Etat

lettre + recommandée simple

dommages + (et) intérêts compensatoires

dommages + (et) intérêts moratoires

dommages + (et) intérêts dissuasifs.

It is worth underlining the surprise function of synaptic ligament (jonctor) of the conjunction *et*. The function of synaptic ligament confers authenticity to the linguistic opinion expressed in our paper, regarding the proper designation of the element of junction when we suggested the suppression of the “prepositional” sequence from the syntagm “prepositional jonctors” launched by L. Guilbert. We believe that the denoted **jonctor** designates the general meaning of various classes of factors of junction within the procedure of synaptation;

a) the combination of a **synaptic member** with a **subsynchronic member**:

synaptic member + subsynchronic member

administrateur représentant + représentant des salariés
héritiers premiers + premiers appelés
agent huissier + huissier du Trésor
enfant pupille + pupille de l'Etat
lettre recommandée + recommandée simple
dommages et intérêts + intérêts compensatoires
dommages et intérêts + intérêts moratoires
dommages et intérêts + intérêts dissuasifs

The second category comprises disynapsies made up of two members, the first member being constructed with elements of junction. Unlike the first, it is a rather vast category (statistically). The basic pattern of these disynapsies presents three structural models:

a. **MS=N1 + jonctor + N2 + A** (first noun + jonctor + the second noun + adjective): *acte de l'état civile; agent de la force publique; bail à domaine congeable* etc.

b. **MS=N1 + jonctor1 + N2 + jonctor2 + N3** (first noun + jonctor1 + the second noun + jonctor2 + the third noun): *actions à fins de subsides; allocation de la mère au foyer; atteinte à la sûreté de l'Etat; corruption d'arbitre ou d'expert; détournement de fonds ou objets; falsification d'objets ou de documents; occupation sans droit ni titre* etc. (see Annex 11). In the case of these disynapsies we should note that the conjunctions „ou” and „ni” are included in the class of jonctors;

c. **MS=N1 + jonctor + A + N2** (first noun + jonctor + adjective + second adjective): *action en perpétuel silence; adjudication sur folle enchère; assurance au premier risque; clause d'exceptionnelle dureté; contravention de grande voirie; juge de la haute cour; jugement en dernier ressort; jugement en premier ressort; juridiction de simple police; moyen de pur droit* etc.

A variant of this structural model deserves all the attention of the researcher, as it marks the subsynaptic ligament through the simultaneous combination of two synaptic jonctors: **N1 + jonctor1 + N2 + jonctor2 + jonctor3 + N3**: *cumul du possesseur et du pétitoire; juges des libertés et de la détention; loi de la police et de sûreté; maison de justice et du droit; refus de vente et de services; régie d'York et d'Anvers; secret de l'enquête et de l'instruction; séparation des églises et de l'Etat; servitude de pacage et de paturage*. The synaptic grouping within disynapsies **1); 2); 3)**; is conforming to the same ways of combination identified in the first category:

a) the combination of a **simple member** with a **subsynaptic member**. It is not superfluous to mention that we have identified a very numerous disynaptic group which exclusively combines using this modality:

Simple member + subsynaptic member

acte + (à) titre gratuit

acte + (à) titre onéreux

atteinte + (à la) représentation de la personne

caution + (de) mise en liberté

code + (du) statut personnel

We have also identified a rather numerous group of disynapsies which combine using both ways of **synaptic grouping**, as in the case of the disynapsy, whose first member is formed by means of qualifiers (but, as we mentioned previously, they are relatively few in number). Let us first transpose the modality of disynaptic capacity of combination expressed by the combination of a **simple member** with a **subsynchronic member** (disynapsies in this group reflect the same structural models that we underlined in the first disynaptic group that we analyzed):

simple member + subsynchronic member

abandon + (du) domicile conjugal
action + (en) recherche de paternité
action + (en) nullité relative
agent + (de la) police judiciaire
clause + (de) jouissance divise
clause + (de) réserve de propriété
demande + (en) nullité de mariage
demande + (en) dommages et intérêts

Let us take a look on the second modality of synaptic combination of the same disynapsies: the combination of a **synaptic member** with a **subsynchronic member**:

synaptic member + subsynchronic member

abandon du domicile + domicile conjugal
action en recherche + recherche de paternité
action en nullité + nullité relative
agent de la police + police judiciaire
clause de jouissance + jouissance divise
clause de réserve + réserve de propriété
demande en nullité + nullité de mariage
demande en dommages + dommages et intérêts

The junction elements within the synaptic members: *abandon du domicile*; *action en recherche*; *action en nullité*; *agent de la police*; *clause de la jouissance*; *clause de réserve*; *demande en nullité*; *demande en dommage*, fulfill the function, (observing the terminology of E. Benveniste), of **synaptic ligament**. The junction elements within the subsynchronic members: *recherche de paternité*; *réserve de propriété*; *nullité de mariage*; *dommages et intérêts*, cumulate the function of **subsynchronic ligaments**.

The use of the degree of synaptability in the **tri-member** synaptic creation allows the identification of the **paratactic disynapsy**: *administrateur personne morale*; *assurance complémentaire vie*; *assurance responsabilité automobile*; *assurance responsabilité civile*; *clotûre règlement judiciaire*; *défaut profit joint*; *clause monnaie étrangère*; *clause réputée non-écrite*;

POLYSYNAPSY – PLURIMEMBER SYNAPSY.

SIMPLE, SYNAPTIC, SUBSYNAPTIC MEMBER

The synapsy which contains several members will be a **polysynapsy**. The **Polysynapsy** is a **plurimember synapsy** which, on a **synaptic level**, is decomposed into the following members: a) simple member; b) synaptic

member; c) subsynaptic members. From a statistical point of view, the group of synapsies formed of four elements is the most significant. After that come the polysynapsies made up of five elements, those made up of six elements, seven and eight elements. The **polysynapsy formed of eight constitutive elements has the most members: simple, synaptic, subsynaptic, complemented by synaptic and subsynaptic ligaments.** We preserved the same criterion of taxonomy as in the case of monosynapsy and disynapsy: in the first group we included polysynapsies whose primary term contract an adjective, in the second group we included polysynapsies whose primary term contract the following synaptic element, by means of the junctor. We shall analyze one example from each representative class:

- a) The polysynapsy made up of four lexemes *contrat de construction de maison individuelle* is divided into the following simple members, synaptic and subsynaptic:
 - simple member** – *contrat*
 - synaptic member** – *contrat de construction*
 - subsynaptic member** – *construction de maison*
 - subsynaptic member** – *maison individuelle*
- b) The polysynapsy with five elements *conversion du règlement amiable en redressement judiciaire*, is decomposed, on a synaptic level, as follows:
 - simple member** – *conversion*
 - synaptic member** – *conversion du règlement*
 - subsynaptic member** – *règlement amiable*
 - subsynaptic member** – *redressement judiciaire*
- c) The polysynapsy made up of six constitutive elements *implication d'un véhicule terrestre à moteur dans un accident de la circulation* includes the following members:
 - simple member** – *implication*
 - synaptic member** – *implication d'un véhicule*
 - subsynaptic member** – *véhicule terrestre*
 - subsynaptic member** – *véhicule terrestre à moteur*
 - subsynaptic member** – *accident de la circulation*
- d) the polysynapsy made up of seven elements: *comité technique des sociétés d'aménagement foncier et d'établissement rural*:
 - simple member** – *comité*
 - synaptic member** – *comité technique*
 - synaptic member** – *comité technique des sociétés*
 - subsynaptic member** – *sociétés d'aménagement*
 - subsynaptic member** – *aménagement foncier*
 - subsynaptic member** – *établissement rural*
- e) the last and the most crowded synaptic constructions are made up of eight elements: *atteintes à l'intégrité corporelle commises en réunions séditionnelles avec rébellion ou pillage*:
 - simple member** – *atteintes*
 - synaptic member** – *atteintes à l'intégrité*
 - subsynaptic member** – *intégrité corporelle*
 - subsynaptic member** – *réunions séditionnelles*

subsynaptic member – *réunions séditeuses avec rébeillon*

subsynaptic member – *réunions séditeuses avec rébeillon ou pillage*

One can note, from what we mentioned above, that the polysynapsy made up of eight constitutive elements has the most members (six in this case): simple, synaptic, subsynaptic, complemented by syntactic and subsynaptic ligaments. As the plurilexemic legal term is the exponent of a certain amount of information, it is necessary to interpret correctly the notion referred to. Each new componential element caught up in the structure of the plurilexemic term plays the role of **determiner of the preceding element**. On a theoretical level, the plurilexemic term may endlessly increase the number of constitutive elements. The specific of scientific exposure which requires concretization, detailing, clarification, specification, triggers conglomerate dimensions of the polysynaptic term. Or, from a pragmatic point of view, the plurilexemic expansion within the specialized term imposes reasonable limits because the plurilexemic term is the exponent of a certain amount of information which requires a proper reference of the designed notion.

Depending on the **degree of synaptic productivity** of the terminological paradigmatic axis, monosynapsies are grouped in: a) monosynapsies with a high level of productivity; b) monosynapsies with an average degree of productivity; c) monosynapsies with a low degree of synaptic productivity. From a constitutive point of view, the **monosynapsy without synaptic ligament** expresses the structural model **N + A**. Based on this model one can distinguish four variants of synaptic creation, depending on the **degree of specificity of the synapsies**:

- a) The determined and the determiner are absolute legal terms;
- b) The determined is an eminently legal term – the determiner is an adjective from the common language;
- c) The determined is a common language noun, and the adjective has a statute of legal term;
- d) The determined and the determiner are both from the common language.

The monosynapsy with junction elements reflect the structural model **N1 + jonctor + N2**. The revealed structural model, **N1 + jonctor + N2**, operates with several elements of junction. **The synaptic ligament „de” covers several types of synaptic relationships** and is predominant in nominal syntagmatic units constituted with junction elements, registering the highest productivity: **84 % of the total number of monosynapsies analyzed**. There follow, in a decreasing order, the elements of junction: *à, en, sur, par, sans, contre, pour, sous, entre, avec, dans, hors, après, envers, chez, sauf*. The high frequency of the synaptic ligament **„de”** is determined by the function of the preposition **„de”**: the function of an instrument for conveying a supplementary information and of concretizing the significance of the syntagmatic sequence it is linked to through the relation of determination. The relationship between the primary element and the determiner marked by the jonctor **„de”** contains the value of the exact designation of the term referred to from which results the specification of the synaptic member.

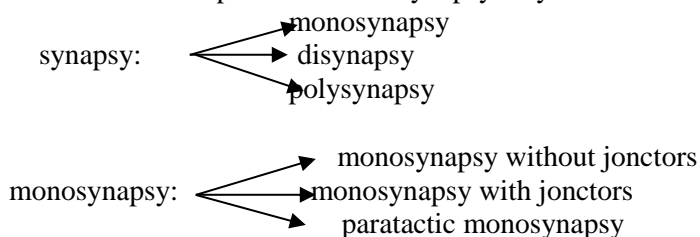
The **paratactic monosynapsy** reveals, in principle, the model of additional composition (parataxis) – **without a junction ligament**, and expresses the structural **N + N**.

The **disynapsy** reflects the **tri-member synapsy** but the one that has in its composition the combination of the simple member or the synaptic member with the subsynaptic member. The disynapsy requires three members of the synapsy the relation of: **a) synapticity; and b) subsynapticity**. According to the degree of synaptability, the disynapsy may be formed in two ways:

1) **The disynapsy formed of a simple member + a subsynaptic member**; the basic scheme of these disynapsies represents three models of structure: **a) N + A1 + A2; b) N + A + conj.”et” + A2; c) N1 + A + jonctor + N2;**

2) **The disynapsy formed of a synaptic member + a subsynaptic member**, represented by three structural models: **a) N1 + jonctor + N2 + A; b) N1 + jonctor1 + N2 + jonctor2 + N3; c) N1 + jonctor + A + N2**. The jonctors within the synaptic members fulfill the function of **synaptic ligament**. The elements of junction within the subsynaptic members cumulate the function of **subsynaptic ligament**. The use of the synaptability degree in the trilexemic synaptic creation allows the identification of the **paratactic disynapsy**.

The schematic presentation of synapsy may be as follows:



The terminological syntagma coined by us, **synaptic derivation**, comprises, exclusively, **SYNAPSIES** – complex lexical unites of specialized language. We believe that a notional delimitation of the concept of *terminological derivational paradigm* is pertinent, and it exists in linguistics (Moldovanu, 2003) and of the notion suggested by us, called **synaptic paradigm**. **The synaptic paradigm is related to the synaptic derivation which operates with the series of the paradigmatic axis of synapsies. The synaptic derivation is generated, in terminologies, by the primary term: the primary term is the initial originator of the synaptic derivational structure, which it motivates. The synaptic motivation is the inherent clue of the synaptic paradigm.** Due to this reason, the synaptic derivatives are included in the complex derivational paradigm, having as a lexical entrance (the originating lexeme) the primary term of the terminological syntagmatic series. **The synaptic paradigm will result from the terminological syntagmatic series: the lexical syntagms (synapsies) constructed with the primary term will form synaptic paradigms – subparadigms of the complex derivational paradigms.**

We introduce below a model of synaptic paradigm formed of synapsies made up with the primary term **droit(m)**. According to the lexical definition from the dictionary *Le Petit Larousse grand format* (edition 2008), the lexical entry

droit(m) designates four semems of the lexeme „droit” (**semem: each of the meanings of a polysemantic word represents a semem**). Each of these four semems have, in turn, more particular meanings, for instance: the semem „droit I” = 8 meanings; semem „droit II” = 2 meanings; semem „droit III” = 6 meanings; semem „droit IV” = 2 meanings. Three of the significations of the semem „droit I” („droit4”; „droit7”; „droit8) are legal terminological designations and we used them to illustrate a model of synaptic paradigm (see the paper in question, p.66-70); *droit(m)4* signifies: sum of money exigible in virtue of an arrangement – tax, fee; *droit(m)7* is defined as: rights and liberties that each individual has in virtue of his human nature; *droit(m)8*: juridical sciences. We also mention the fact that **the synaptic paradigm results from the terminological syntagmatic series, in which, in turn, the primary term generates the syntagmatic derivation**. We believe that *the terminological derivational paradigm* may be related to the **lexematic derivation and will operate with simple terms**. The complex derivational paradigm incorporates a series of paradigms (and subparadigms) at the level of the lexical derivation, in the wide meaning of the word. We suggest a new variant of paradigm in the composition of CDP (complex derivational paradigm) – **the synaptic paradigm** - which we relate to the **synaptic derivations**. **The synaptic paradigm operates with the terminological series of the paradigmatic axis of synapsies, the synapsies (monosynapsies, disynapsies, polysynapsies) being complex lexical units of specialized language.**

CONCLUSIONS:

The study conducted allows us to conclude that:

- **Synapsy is a fix lexical unit with a complete designated unit and a complex denomination. The units of the synapsy are idiomatically identifiable, have a free form and are, in principle, reunited by synaptic junction elements.**
- **Synapsy has a primary term by means of which the paradigmatic axis is constructed – the synaptic paradigm. The primary term contracts free lexical units which give birth to explicit combinations.**
- **Synapsy triggers the detailed specification of the designated unit and the classification of the series through their distinctive features.**
- **By the ease and range of its realizations, synapsy exhibits an enormous paradigmatic flexibility.**
- **Only by means of the designation criterion we can determine whether a lexical unit may be considered synapsy.**
- **Synapsies (monosynapsies, disynapsies, polysynapsies) constructed with the primary term contract various elements of junction, called synaptic jonctors.**
- **Synapsies marked by jonctors (synaptic ligaments, subsynaptic ligaments) denote a precise designation of the synaptic derivative from which there results the specification of the synaptic member.**

According to the form and the content, we divide the scientific terms that make up the corpus of the specialized language in:

- 1) **simple terms;**
- 2) **synaptic terms;**

The simple terms are subgrouped in:

- 1) **primary simple terms;** 2) **affixed terms;** 3) **affixoid terms;**
- 4) **compound terms;**

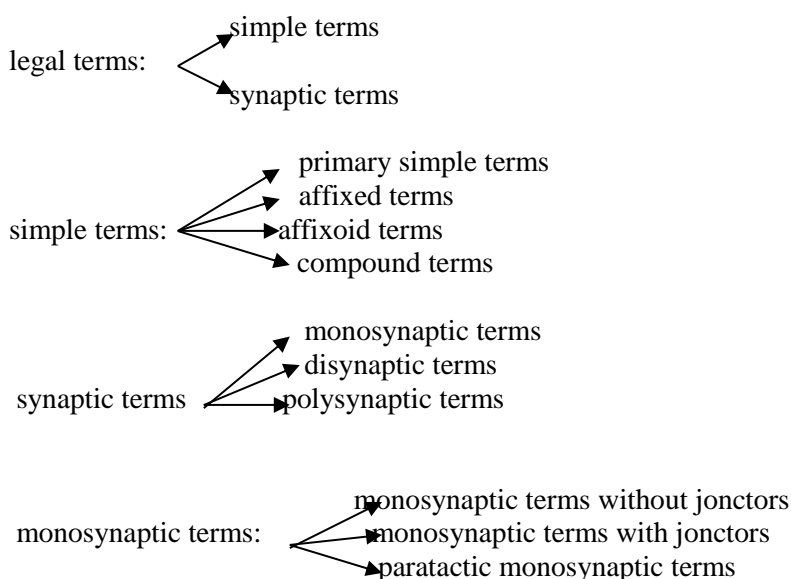
Synaptic terms are divided into:

- 1) **monosynaptic terms;**
- 2) **disynaptic terms;**
- 3) **polysynaptic terms;**

Monosynaptic terms are divided into:

- 1) **monosynaptic terms without jonctors;**
- 2) **monosynaptic terms with jonctors;**
- 3) **paratactic monosynaptic terms**

This taxonomy may be schematically represented as follows:



REFERENCES:

BENVENISTE, EMILE, *Problèmes de linguistique générale*, tome 1 et 2, Gallimard, Paris, 1966.

BENVENISTE, EMILE, *Formes nouvelles de la composition nominale*, in Bulletin de la Société de Linguistique de Paris, tome 61, fasc.1, 1966, p. 90-95.

GUILBERT, LOUIS, *La créativité lexicale*, Librairie Larousse, Paris, 1975.

GUILBERT, LOUIS, *La dérivation syntagmatique dans les vocabulaires scientifiques*, in Les langues de spécialité, Actes du stage de Saint Cloud, 23-30 novembre, 1967.

MOLDOVANU, GHEORGHE, *Paradigma derivațională terminologică, parte integrantă a paradigmei derivaționale complexe*, in Probleme de Lingvistică

generală și romanică, vol.I, CE USM, Chișinău, 2003.