



Word Structure Change in Language Contact

Monosyllabic Hungarian Loanwords in Romanian

Csaba Attila BOTH

Doctoral School for Hungarian Studies

Babeş-Bolyai University, Department of Applied Linguistics

Sapientia Hungarian University of Transylvania (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Faculty of Technical and Human Sciences

bothcsabaattila@gmail.com

Abstract. Languages have been in contact since their existence. The Hungarian and Romanian languages have been so for at least 800 years. The present article aims at analysing the structural changes in the monosyllabic Hungarian loanwords in Romanian. After the theoretical introduction, I discuss the phonological status of the /j/ sound, which is very important in this kind of investigations. After that, I present the syllable structure types of these monosyllabic Hungarian etymons and I present, as well, the changing schemes of their structures in the borrowing. The study concludes that the most affected parts of the syllables are the nucleus and the coda.

Keywords: language contact, syllable structure changes

1. Introduction

The research of the Hungarian borrowings in Romanian from different perspectives has a long history. In order to examine the impact of the Hungarian language on Romanian, the demand for Romanian and Hungarian linguistics took place in the second half of the nineteenth century. A. Cihac (1879) and György Alexics (1888) were the first researchers who carried out statistical surveys on the proportion of the Romanian vocabulary of Hungarian origin (Todoran 1965: 921). Similar research was carried out by Al. Rosetti and Ov. Densusianu (1901). According to their results, the interaction between the Romanian and the Hungarian culture and language began in the 10th–11th centuries. Later, further research was implemented by N. Drăganu (1933), Lajos Tamás (1966), I. Pătruţ (1953), Béla Kelemen (1971), Emese Kis (1975), and Ferenc Király (1990), who performed grammatical and phonetical studies. According to Victor Grecu, Romanian language was influenced by the Hungarian in two waves: the lexical elements in the prevailing wave of

influence spread throughout the whole Romanian language area, whereas the words borrowed in the second wave remained only regionally used, and their distribution was limited to the region of Transylvania (Grecu 2004: 197–200).

Owing to these research works, we have a rather comprehensive picture of Hungarian influence on Romanian language. Studies have also been made on the sound phenomena of the Hungarian effect (see Both 2015, 2016a, 2016b).

In this paper, I examine whether modifications are made during borrowing in the structure of monosyllabic words and, if so, what kind of changes they are as well as the type of regularities that govern them.

Following the introduction, I present the database and methods of the study, and then I outline the concept of syllable by presenting the theoretical framework into which the approach of this study fits. Next, I examine the syllable types of the Hungarian monosyllabic etymons and the forms of Romanian borrowings. The final part of my article is a brief summary.

2. Research database and methods

The research began with the designation of a word database, produced by hand, in which two of the major lexicographic works (NDULR¹ and DEX²) included all the Romanian words for which dictionaries indicate Hungarian etymons. This word database was processed in a spreadsheet software and contains a total of 1,076 lexemes or lexeme variants. The database uses built-in functions to examine the correspondence of the word length and the match of the length of each syllable, characterizes the inner structure of each syllable, analyses the CV-skeleton of the syllables, and creates the CV-skeleton of the input words.

Using this database, I made statistical analyses and revision by hand of the possible alterations during the borrowing. In the database, I have examined a total of 2,152 Romanian and Hungarian words and 5,032 Romanian and Hungarian syllables, which form the basis of what follows.

2.1. Syllable structure

This study shares the views of Chitoran, Durand–Siptár, Siptár, and Törkenczy, according to which each syllable has an internal hierarchical structure (see Chitoran 2002; Durand–Siptár 1997; Siptár 2003; Törkenczy 1994, 2004).

1 NDULR = Oprea, Ioan et al. 2009. *Noul dicționar universal al limbii române*. Bucharest: Editura Litera Internațional.

2 DEX = Coteanu, Ion et al. 2012. *Dicționarul explicativ al limbii române*. Academia Română, Institutul de Lingvistică „Iorgu Iordan–Al. Rosetti”–Editura Univers Enciclopedic Gold, Bucharest.

According to Kenstowicz:

As far as its internal structure is concerned, the syllable has traditionally been viewed as containing an obligatory *nucleus* preceded by an optional consonantal *onset* and followed by an optional consonantal *coda*. The nucleus plus coda form a tighter bond than the onset plus nucleus. Consequently, traditional grammar recognizes an additional subconstituent called the *rhyme* (or *rime*) that includes the nucleus and the coda. (Kenstowicz 1994: 252–253)

In our representations of syllable structure, we use the following elements: firstly, in the representations of the five basic elements of the syllables: σ (sigma Greek letter) stands for the syllable itself, *R* stands for rime, *On* represents the Onset, *N* is the nucleus, and *Co* represents the place of the coda. Below these elements, we use the *root tier* and the root nodes. A root node represents all the phonological features of a segment, its symbol is “•”, and it is directly linked to the *CV tier* (Clements 1985: 228), where *C* stands for a consonant and *V* for a vowel. The *CV tier* is followed by the *timing tier*, where an *X* symbol represents one timing unit. For the representation of minimal syllable, see Figure 1.



Figure 1. *The minimal syllable*

In the vowel system of the Hungarian language, long vowels are also part of the system: /a:, e:, i:, o:, ø:, u:, y:/ (á, é, í, ó, ő, ú, ű). The question arises in how to interpret the nucleus of the syllable in these cases. The length of Hungarian long vowels is usually about twice the length of short vowels. Therefore, one solution would seem to be that such vowels could be considered two short vowels, which happen to have the same phonological features. In this case, a syllable consisting of a long vowel (e.g. ő ‘he/she’) could be represented as in Figure 2.

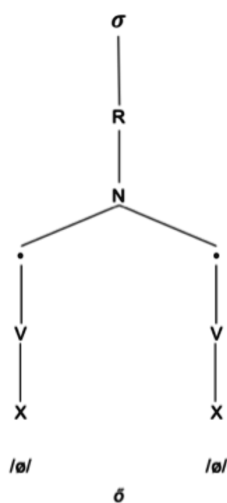


Figure 2. Representation of a long vowel as two different vowels with the same features

In this interpretation, we can say that the syllable has a branching nucleus. However, the main goal of the representation is that of capturing a phenomenon in the simplest possible way – accordingly, the long vowel can also be depicted as in *Figure 3*.

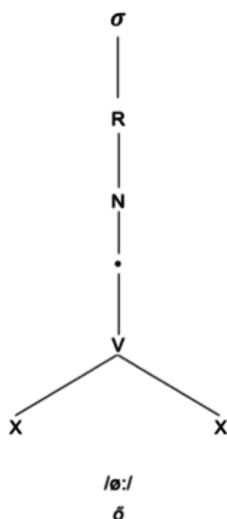


Figure 3. Representation of a long vowel as a single vowel that occupies two timing units

The difference between the two figures (2 and 3) can be captured by highlighting different aspects of a given sound. For *Figure 2*, it is emphasized that there are two different vowel segments that are next to each other, while for *Figure 3* it is emphasized that the duration is twice as long.

In the Romanian language, we encounter a large number of diphthongs: in such a case, the branching nucleus also extends to two timing units, but the two diphthong-component vowels will differ in their phonological features too, which means that they have different root nodes. We can represent the diphthong of the word *lighean* ‘bowl’ /*ea*/ as in *Figure 4*.

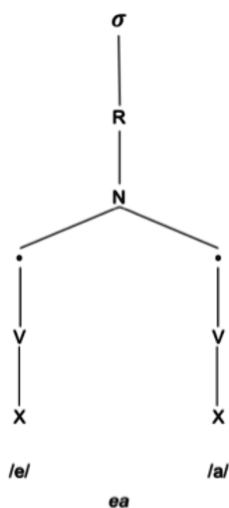


Figure 4. Representation of a diphthong

Since the subject of this study is the examination of modification of the syllable structures and since figures 2 and 4 are applicable in both languages, the syllable with a branching nucleus is represented as in *Figure 5*.

In syllables, of course, not only the nucleus can be branching but also the onset and the coda. In the syllables of both the Hungarian and the Romanian language, two-way branching and three-way branching onsets are possible (*Figure 6*), but they can appear only in the first syllable of the word.

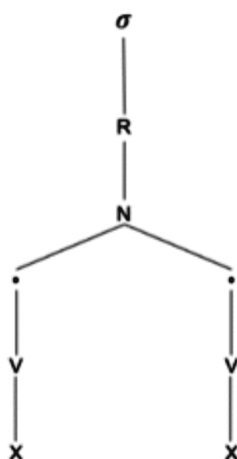


Figure 5. Representation of a branching nucleus

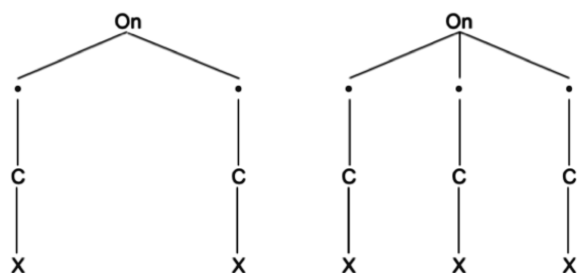


Figure 6. Representation of two-way and three-way branching onsets

Like the other parts of the syllable, the coda can contain only one consonant (non-branching coda) or can be branching (see Figure 7). The coda in the Hungarian language can only be non-branching or two-way branching, while in Romanian it can be three-way branching too.

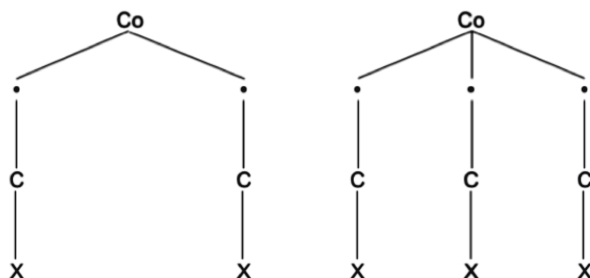


Figure 7. Representation of two-way and three-way branching onsets

Therefore, the elements of the inner structure of the syllable can include the following configurations:

- Onset:
 - no onset,
 - non-branching onset (C),
 - two-way branching onset (CC),
 - three-way branching onset (CCC);
- Nucleus:
 - non-branching nucleus (V),
 - two-way branching nucleus (VV);
- Coda:
 - no coda,
 - non-branching coda (C),
 - two-way branching coda (CC),
 - three-way branching coda (CCC).

2.2. What about the /j/ sound?

The /j/ sound is an important matter of this investigation because the way we identify it will greatly affect the research results. Therefore, firstly, we clarify the status of this sound in Hungarian and secondly in Romanian.

Undoubtedly, from a phonetic perspective, the /j/ sound is a glide, but its phonological interpretation needs to be examined more closely in its linguistics functionality. For a correct interpretation, it is necessary to consider whether there are diphthongs in a certain language. In order to establish this, it is necessary to distinguish between phonetic and phonological diphthongs since the matter of phonetic diphthongs does not depend on interpretation but their existence is a fact (Siptár 1994: 200). In the standard variant of the Hungarian no attention is paid to diphthongs, but when referring to dialects, there is a large number of them, mainly as embodiments of the /eː, oː, øː/ (é, ó, ő) sounds.

The fact that the /j/ sound is not a diphthong component can raise a number of arguments in phonological sense. 1. In languages where there are real diphthongs, not all vowels can be combined in a single nucleus. 2. Moreover, an even analysis of diphthongs can be supported by the fact that they may alternate with simple vowels, while in Hungarian this is not possible. 3. It is even more important that the Hungarian /j/ sound occurs both before and after long vowels; that is to say, if it were part of the nucleus, we would need to hypothesize a three-way branching nucleus, and there is no such example in any of the world's languages. (...) 4. The fact that the /j/ sound in the Hungarian is a consonant is proven by the fact that a word beginning with /j/ + vowel chooses the *a* form of the definite article, not the *an* one: *a játék* ('the game') like *a körte* ('the pear'), and not **az játék* like *az*

alma ('the apple'). 5. Likewise, the /j/ after a vowel behaves as a consonant: *vajjal* ('with butter') like *lábbal* ('with foot'), and not **vajval* like *szóval* ('with word') (Siptár 2003: 357).³

Accordingly, the most practical solution is to consider the /j/ sound [-nasal, -sonorant] consonant in the sound system of Hungarian, i.e. it is a liquid (Siptár 1994: 200–201).

The situation in Romanian is quite different. First of all, the written form of the sound may be confusing since in Romanian the /j/ is written with the letter *i* like the vowel /i/ – so, there may be problems in the interpretation of the sound.⁴

We start from the sounds marked with letter *i*. In Romanian, this letter is used to indicate two different statuses: first, it marks the [i] front, close, unrounded vowel, such as: *adimeni* /adimeni/, *alişpan* /alişpan/, *băni* /bəni/, etc. words; in this case, of course, this sound forms a syllable nucleus.

Another case where *i* appears in a word is when it occurs next to a palatalized consonant like in the *cioaclă* /tʃoaklə/, *ciof* /tʃof/, *ciopor* /tʃopor/, *fierăstrău* /fierəstrəu/, *gionat* /dʒionat/, *ştiol* /ʃtiol/, and *vierş* /vierʃ/ words. Furthermore, it appears as a glide in hiatus-filling role as a transition between two vowels, and this does not appear in written form, e.g.: *aldui* /alduji/, *baştie* /baştije/, or *hârşie* /hirʃije/.

From among the cases presented above, the letter *i* is only treated as a full value /i/ vowel when it is confirmed by its articulation. In other cases, it is classified as consonant /j/ as part of the onset or the coda, and when it appears next to palatalized consonants as *i* in writing; it does not get its own timing unit, but it is treated as an epenthetic element (feature) of the consonant.

3. General findings on the database

As I have mentioned, our research corpus contains a number of 1,079 lexemes and lexeme variants. The following considerations are based on the analysis of the Hungarian etymons.

3 „[1] Azokban a nyelvekben, amelyekben valóban vannak kettőshangzók, nem lehet bármit bármivel összerakni egy szótagmagon belül, [2] továbbá a diftongusok egységes elemzése azzal is alátámasztható, hogy ezek egyszerű magánhangzóval váltakozhatnak (...), míg a magyarban erre nincs lehetőség. [3] Még fontosabb, hogy a magyar /j/ hosszú magánhangzók előtt és után is előfordul, vagyis ha itt a mag része lenne, háromfelé ágazó szótagmagot kellene feltennünk, amire a világ egyetlen nyelvében sincs példa. (...) [4] A magyar /j/ mássalhangzó voltát bizonyítja az is, hogy a /j/ + magánhangzó kezdetű szavak a határozott névelő *a*, nem pedig *az* változatát választják maguk előtt: *a játék*, mint *a körte*, nem pedig **az játék* mint *az alma*. [5] Ugyanígy a magánhangzó utáni /j/ is mássalhangzóként viselkedik: *vajjal*, mint *lábbal*, nem pedig **vajval*, mint *szóval*” (Siptár 2003: 357) – own translation.

4 See Chitoran (2002: 7–12) on the sound system of Romanian and a possible judgement of the /j/ sound.

In our database, there are four words formed of 5 syllables (0.37%), 113 words containing 4 syllables (10.47%), 351 words of 3 syllables (32.53%), 512 ones consisting of 2 syllables (47.45%), and 90 monosyllabic words. As it can be seen from this data, most of the Hungarian etymons have 2 or 3 syllables. In the present article, we investigate the monosyllabic ones.

These 90 monosyllabic words have different inner structures. *Table 1* presents these categories with the help of the elements of the CV tier.

Table 1. *Types of structures of the Hungarian etymons*

Category	Structure description	Number	Percentage	Example
CCVC	- two-way branching onset, - non-branching nucleus, - non-branching coda, - branching rime	4	4.44%	<i>svung</i>
CCVVC	- two-way branching onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - non-branching coda, - branching rime	6	6.66%	<i>drót</i>
CCVVCC	- two-way branching onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - two-way branching coda, - branching rime	2	2.22%	<i>spájz</i>
CV	- non-branching onset, - non-branching nucleus, - no coda, - non-branching rime	3	3.33%	<i>na</i>
CVC	- non-branching onset, - non-branching nucleus, - non-branching coda, - branching rime	20	22.22%	<i>baj</i>
CVCC	- non-branching onset, - non-branching nucleus, - two-way branching coda, - branching rime	23	25.55%	<i>comb</i>
CVV	- non-branching onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - no coda, - non-branching rime	3	3.33%	<i>tó</i>
CVVC	- non-branching onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - non-branching coda, - branching rime	24	26.66%	<i>cél</i>

Category	Structure description	Number	Percentage	Example
CVVCC	- non-branching onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - two-way branching coda, - branching rime	2	2.22%	<i>lác</i>
VVC	- no onset, - two-way branching nucleus, - non-branching coda, - branching rime	3	3.33%	<i>ír</i>
Total		90	99.96%	

We have interesting results from grouping these categories according to the types of syllable structure. Viewing *Table 2*, it is obvious that a typical monosyllabic Hungarian etymon in this situation of linguistic contact has a syllable that has non-branching onset, non-branching or branching nucleus, and non-branching coda (CVC or CVVC).

Table 2. *Grouping the structure categories by the elements of the syllable structure*

Category	Number	Percentage
by the onset		
no onset	3	3.33%
non-branching onset	75	83.33%
two-way branching onset	12	13.33%
by the nucleus		
non-branching nucleus	50	55.55%
branching nucleus	40	44.44%
by the coda		
no coda	6	6.66%
non-branching coda	57	63.33%
two-way branching coda	27	30.00%

4. What happens to syllable structures during borrowing?

4.1. CCVCC-type words

In our database, there are 4 words that share this syllable structure (see *Figure 8*). The elements of this type of syllable take up a total of 5 timing units.

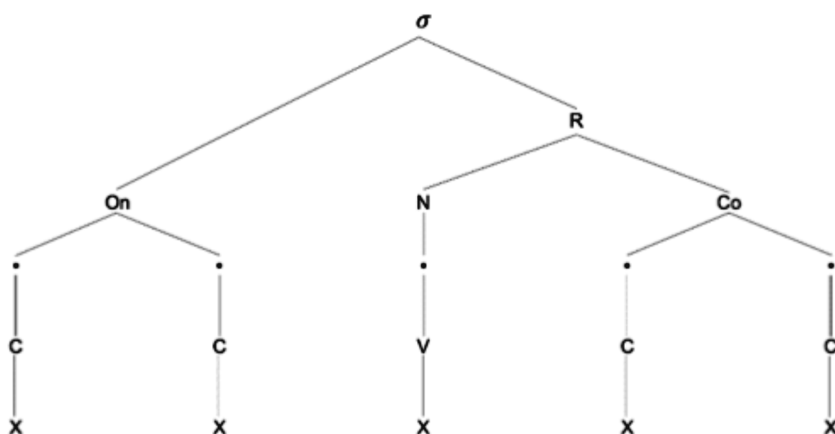


Figure 8. CCVCC-type syllable structure

This type of syllable has a two-way branching onset, non-branching nucleus, and two-way branching coda. Three of the 4 lexeme variants of this type have been borrowed in Romanian without any change in duration or structure: Hung. *svung* /ʃvung/ > Rom. *şvung* /ʃvung/, Hung. *tromf*₁ /tromf/ > Rom. *tromf* /tromf/, Hung. *tromf*₂ /tromf/ > Rom. *tronf* /tronf/, but there was a word in which the nucleus became branched, while the coda became unbranched (see Figure 9): Hung. *stoll* /ʃtol:/ > Rom. *ştiol* /ʃtiol/.

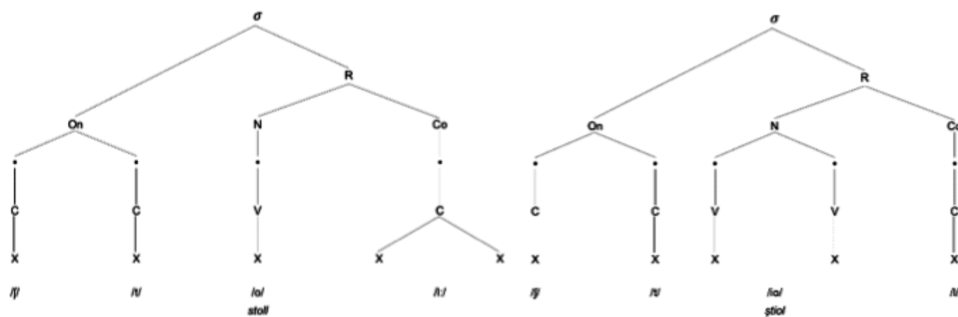


Figure 9. Changing CCVCC structure to CCVVC

In this change, the Hungarian /o/ from the nucleus has become an /iō/ diphthong, while the long /l/ sound from the coda has become a short one /l/.

4.2. CCVVC-type words

A total of six lexeme variants among monosyllabic Hungarian loanwords in Romanian share the CCVVC structure, which takes up five timing units on the

timing tier. We will see that none of the Romanian forms has preserved the original syllable structure. Five words have become CCVC structured; this phenomenon can be explained by the lack of long vowels in Romanian (see Figure 10). These words are: Hung. *drót* /dro:t/ > Rom. *drot* /drot/, Hung. *gróf* /gro:f/ > Rom. *grof* /grof/, Hung. *pléh₁* /ple:h/ > Rom. *pleu* /pleũ/, Hung. *prém* /pre:m/ > Rom. *prim* /prim/, Hung. *sróf* /fro:f/ > Rom. *şrof* /şrof/. As it can be seen in Figure 10, the Romanian form drops one vowel (and one timing unit) from the nucleus, which thus becomes a non-branching one.

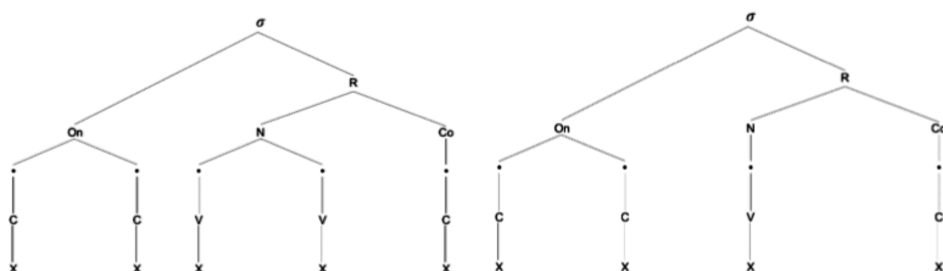


Figure 10. Changing CCVVC structure to CCVC

This type of structure might change during the process of borrowing in such a way that the branching character of the nucleus is preserved (by the appearance of a diphthong), but in this one the coda drops and the rime becomes non-branching. There is a single example among our monosyllabic words for this type of change: Hung. *pléh₂* /ple:h/ > Rom. *pleu* /pleũ/. See Figure 11.

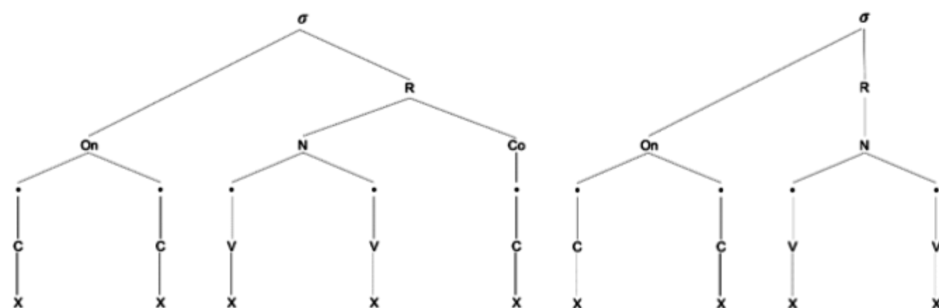


Figure 11. Changing CCVVC structure to CCVV

4.3. CCVVCC-type words

When referring to monosyllabic words, there is a single case in the Hungarian language in which all syllabic elements are two-way branching but which has been borrowed in two phonetically different variants. Both of the Romanian

forms were borrowed by dropping a timing unit from the nucleus, which thus became non-branching (see *Figure 12*): Hung. *spájz*₁ /ʃpa:jz/ > Rom. *șpaiz* /ʃpajz/, Hung. *spájz*₂ /ʃpa:jz/ > Rom. *șpais* /ʃpajs/. The change can be also explained by the lack of the long vowels in the Romanian.

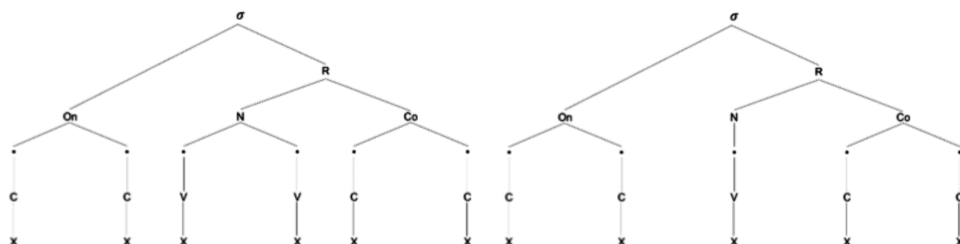


Figure 12. Changing CCVVCC structure to CCVCC

4.4. CV-type words

Despite the fact that this is one of the most common structures of syllables in Hungarian, it appears only in the case of two words among monosyllabic Hungarian etymons. The first one has been borrowed in two phonetically different forms: Hung. *na*₁ /nɔ/ > Rom. *na* /na/, Hung. *na*₂ /nɔ/ > Rom. *no* /no/. The second example is Hung. *ni* /ni/ > Rom. *ni* /ni/. All three variants share the same structure, in which nothing has been changed by borrowing (see *Figure 13*).

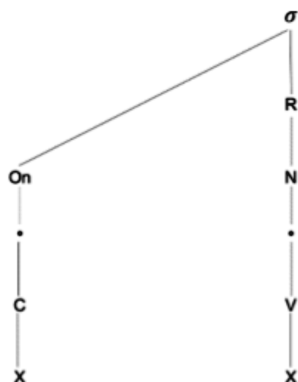


Figure 13. The CV syllable structure

4.5. CVC-type words

We have 20 monosyllabic examples sharing the CVC structure, which is very common in the majority of languages. In the case of the majority of the words, the structure has been kept without any changes, i.e. Hung. *baj* /bɔj/ > Rom. *bai* /baj/,

Hung. *hely* /hej/ > Rom. *hei* /hej/, Hung. *sas* /ʃɔʃ/ > Rom. *șoș* /ʃɔʃ/, Hung. *zseb* /ʒɛb/ > Rom. *jeb* /ʒeb/, etc.

In the case of two words, however, there is an interesting phenomenon: the nucleus became branching because of the diphthongization in Romanian (see Figure 14): Hung. *nem* /nɛm/ > Rom. *neam* /neâm/ and Hung. *tok₂* /tok/ > Rom. *tioc* /tiōk/.

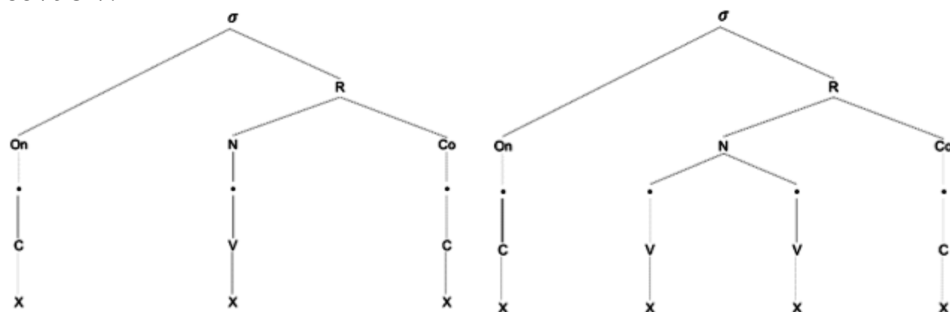


Figure 14. The CVC structure becomes CVVC

4.6. CVCC-type words

A number of 23 monosyllabic lexeme variants share this structure, 19 of which have been borrowed without any structural changes, i.e. Hung. *borz* /borz/ > Rom. *borz* /borz/, Hung. *comb₁* /ʈomb/ > Rom. *țomb* /ʈomb/, Hung. *comb₂* /ʈomb/ > Rom. *țimp* /ʈimp/, Hung. *gond* /gond/ > Rom. *gând* /gind/, Hung. *gomb* /gomb/ > Rom. *bumb* /bumb/, etc.

There are 2 words in which the coda has become three-way branching (see Figure 15): Hung. *konty* /konc/ > Rom. *conci* /konɕj/ and Hung. *korcs* /korɕ/ > Rom. *corci* /korɕj/.

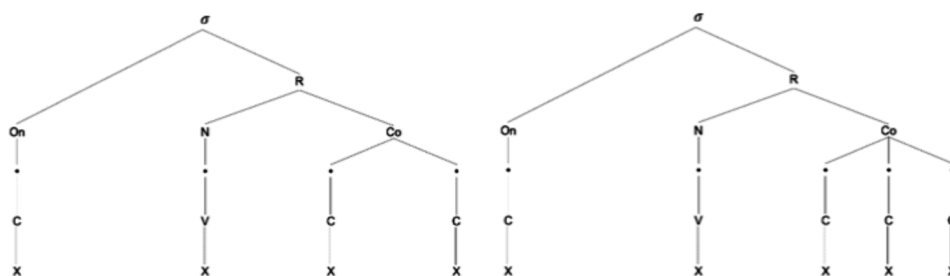


Figure 15. The CVCC structure becomes CVCCC

Another word has been borrowed by changing of the onset to be two-way branched and the coda to be three-way branched (see Figure 16): Hung. *gyolcs* /jɔlɕ/ > Rom. *giulgi* /dʒjuldʒj/.

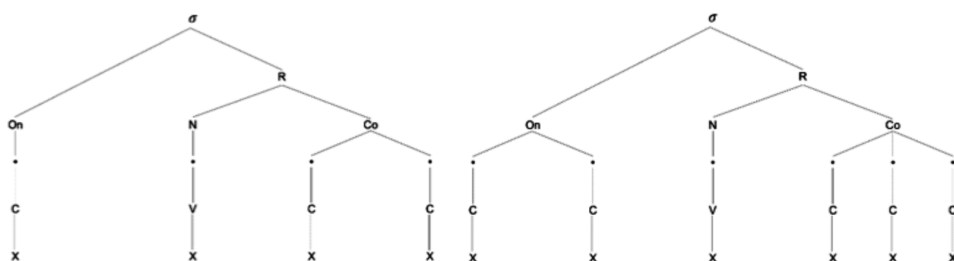


Figure 16. The CVCC structure becomes CCVCCC

Finally, we have an example in which only the onset has become a two-way branching one (see Figure 17): Hung. *vers* /verʃ/ > Rom. *vierș* /vjerʃ/.

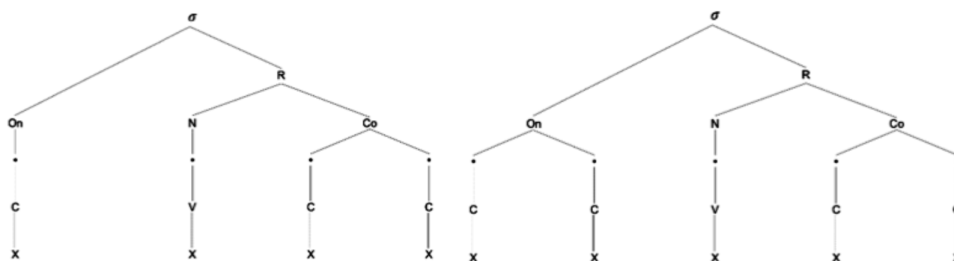


Figure 17. The CVCC structure becomes CCVCC

4.7. CVV-type words

The syllable structure which has a non-branching onset, branching nucleus, and it has no coda appears in 2 Hungarian etymons and in 3 Romanian forms. In the first case, the structure has not changed: Hung. *bő₁* /bø:/ > Rom. *biu* /biũ/, Hung. *tó* /to:/ > Rom. *tău* /tăũ/. In the second case, the nucleus became non-branching, and a non-branching coda appeared (see Figure 18): Hung. *bő₂* /bø:/ > Rom. *biv* /biv/.

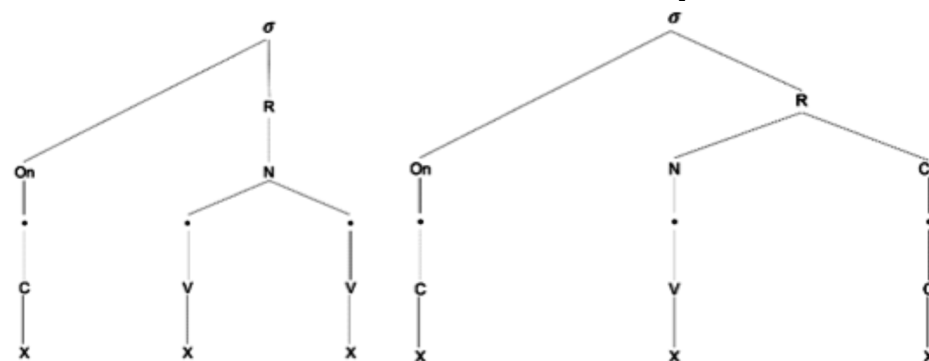


Figure 18. The CVV structure becomes CVC

4.8. CVVC-type words

Our database contains 24 monosyllabic Hungarian lexeme variants. None of the etymons has been borrowed by keeping its original syllable structure, but there is one example in which the structure and the duration were maintained. The branching nucleus which in Hungarian was a long vowel became a diphthong in Romanian: Hung. *léc* /leːtː/ > Rom. *leaț* /leãtː/.

The great majority of these words has been borrowed by dropping a timing unit from the nucleus, which thus became non-branching (see Figure 19), i.e. Hung. *bán* /baːn/ > Rom. *ban* /ban/, Hung. *máj* /maːj/ > Rom. *mai* /maj/, Hung. *szász* /saːs/ > Rom. *sas* /sas/, etc.

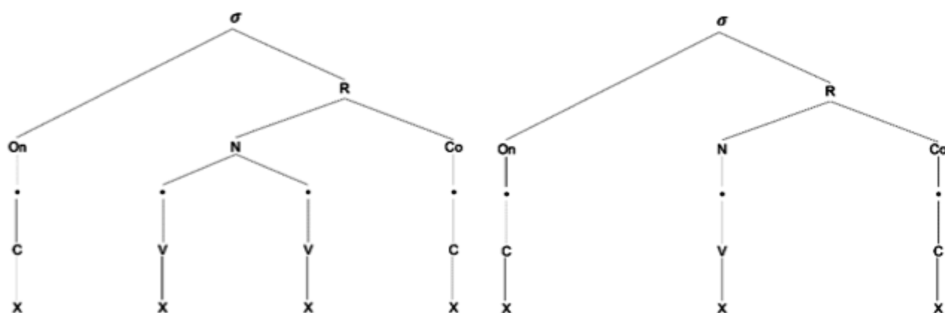


Figure 19. The CVVC structure becomes CVC

There is another word with two Romanian forms in which the nucleus became non-branching and the onset two-way branching (see Figure 20): Hung. *csúf*₁ /ɟuːf/ > Rom. *ciuf* /ɟjuf/, Hung. *csúf*₂ /ɟuːf/ > Rom. *ciof* /ɟjof/.

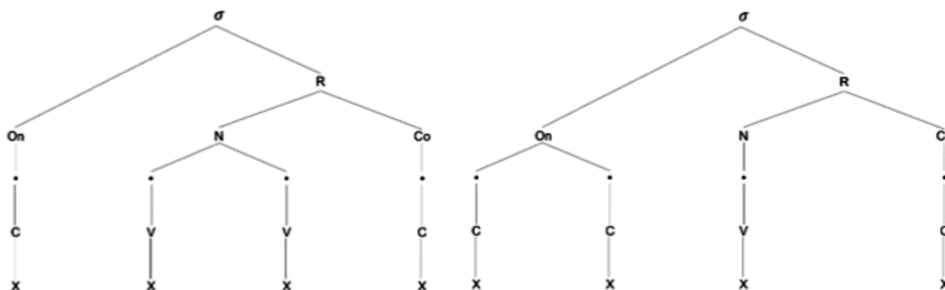


Figure 20. The CVVC structure becomes CCVC

The fourth type of change in structure in the case of the CVVC-type words has one example in our database. In this borrowing, the nucleus became non-branching and the coda became a two-way branching one (see Figure 21): Hung. *szűcs* /syːɟ/ > Rom. *suci* /suj/.

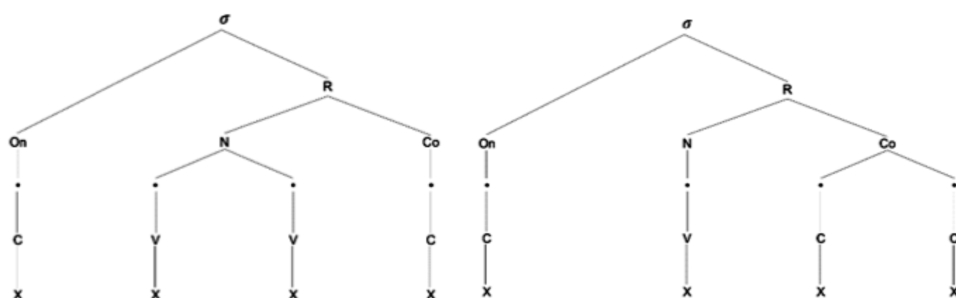


Figure 21. The CVVC structure becomes CVCC

4.9. CVVCC-type words

The CVVCC structure type appears in two examples. Both of them have been borrowed by the drop of a timing unit from the nucleus, which thus became non-branching (see Figure 22): Hung. *lānc* /la:nts/ > Rom. *lanț* /lants/, Hung. *sānc* /ʃa:nts/ > Rom. *șanț* /ʃants/.

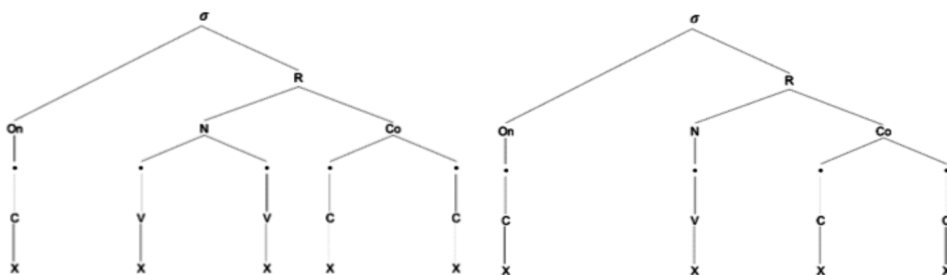


Figure 22. The CVVCC structure becomes CVCC

4.10. VVC-type words

The last structure of monosyllabic Hungarian etymons has three examples in our database. All of them have been borrowed by dropping a timing unit from the nucleus (see Figure 23): Hung. *ír* /i:r/ > Rom. *ir* /ir/, Hung. *íz* /i:z/ > Rom. *iz* /iz/ and Hung. *ék* /e:k/ > Rom. *ic* /ik/.

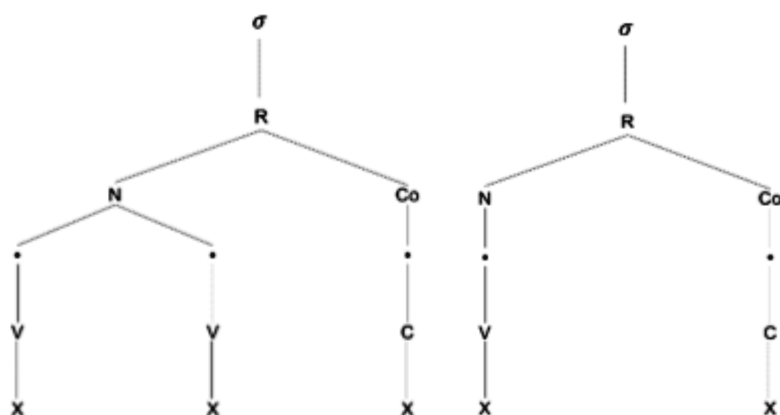


Figure 23. *The VVC structure becomes VC*

5. Summary

In the case of monosyllabic Hungarian etymons which have been borrowed by Romanian, we could identify a number of 17 borrowing schemes from the point of view of the syllable structure. As we could see, the changes, if they occurred, affected mostly the nucleus: in two cases, the non-branching nucleus became two-way branching (see *Figure 24*); these changing schemes were: CCVC > CCVVC and CVC > CVVC. In seven cases (and we could consider that this is a tendency because of the lack of long vowels in Romanian), the nucleus drops a timing unit and becomes non-branching as in the CCVVC > CCVC, CCVCC > CCVCC, CVV > CVC, CVVC > CVC, CVVC > CCVC, CVVC > CVCC, VVC > VC changing schemes (see *Figure 25*).

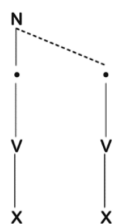


Figure 24. *Non-branching nucleus becomes branching*

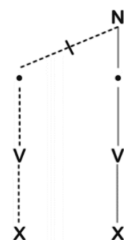


Figure 25. *Branching nucleus becomes non-branching*

It was interesting to see that an existing onset of the etymon never drops any timing units, but there were examples in which non-branching onsets became two-way branching (see *Figure 26*) as in the CVCC > CCVCCC, CVC > CCVCC, CVVC > CCVC changing schemes.

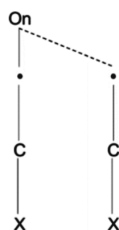


Figure 26. *Non-branching onset becomes two-way branching*

The case of the coda is more complex. We had one changing scheme (CCVVC > CCVV) in which the coda disappeared by the drop of the consonant at the end of the word (see *Figure 27*), while we also had a case where the non-existing coda became a non-branching one (CVV > CVC) by the addition of a consonant to the end of the word (see *Figure 28*). We had two schemes in which the Hungarian non-branching coda became two-way branching in Romanian (see *Figure 29*), CVC > CCVCC, CVVC > CVCC. Finally, the Hungarian two-way branching coda became three-way branching in Romanian (see *Figure 30*) – CVCC > CVCCC and CVCC > CCVCCC.

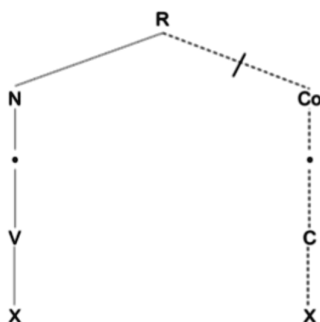


Figure 27. *Disappearing coda*

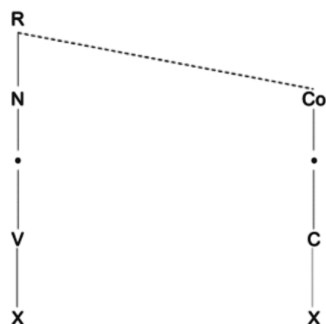


Figure 28. *Appearing coda*

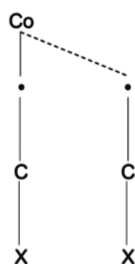


Figure 29. *Non-branching coda becomes two-way branching*

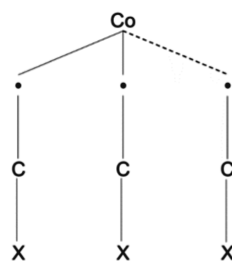


Figure 30. *Two-way branching coda becomes three-way branching*

As we could see, the monosyllabic Hungarian words borrowed by Romanian have suffered changes in their structure mostly in the nucleus – which in most of the cases transformed from a branching one into a non-branching one – and in the coda, which had several ways to change by addition or drop of a consonantal element. The next step of this research will be a similar analysis of the words that are formed of 2 syllables.

References

- Alexics, György. 1888. *Magyar elemek az oláh nyelvben*. Budapest.
- Both, Csaba Attila. 2015. Phonetic adaptation of Hungarian loanwords in Romanian. The adaptation of stop sounds (occlusive plosives). *Acta Universitatis Sapientiae, Philologica* 7(3): 119–138.
- 2016a. Adaptarea fonetică a consoanelor palatale. In: Pletl, Rita–Fazakas, Noémi (eds), *Linguistic and cultural interaction – An interdisciplinary approach*. Cluj-Napoca: Scientia Publishing House. 179–191.
- 2016b. Phonological phenomena of Hungarian loanwords in the Romanian language. *Acta Universitatis Sapientiae, Philologica* 8(3): 117–126.
- Chitoran, Ioana. 2002. *The phonology of Romanian: A constraint-based approach*. Berlin–New York: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Cihac, Alexandru. 1879. *Dictionnaire d'étymologie daco-romane elements slaves, magyars, turcs, grecs-moderne et albanais*. Francfort a/M L. St.-Goar.
- Clements, G. N. 1985. The geometry of phonological features. *Phonology Yearbook* 2: 225–252.
- Densusianu, Ovidiu. 1901, 1938. *Histoire de la langue romaine I*. Paris.
- Drăganu, Nicolae. 1933. *Românii în veacurile IX–XIV pe baza toponimiei și a onomasticii*. Bucharest.
- Durand, Jacques–Siptár, Péter. 1997. *Bevezetés a fonológiába*. Budapest: Osiris Kiadó.
- Grecu, Victor V. 2004. *Istoria limbii române*. Cluj-Napoca: Scientia Publishing House.
- Irimiaș, George. 2002. *Noțiuni de fonetică și fonologie*. Cluj-Napoca: Scientia Publishing House.
- Kelemen, Béla. 1971. Cu privire la începutul influenței maghiare asupra limbii române. In: *Cercetări de Lingvistică* XVI(2): 230–239.
- Kenstowicz, Michael. 1994. *Phonology in generative grammar*. Cambridge–Massachusetts: Blackwell Publishers.
- Király, Francisc. 1990. *Contacte lingvistice: adaptarea fonetică a împrumuturilor românești de origine maghiară*. Timișoara: Editura Facla.

- Kis, Emese. 1975. *Încadrarea substantivelor de origine maghiară în sistemul morfologic al limbii române*. Bucharest.
- Pătruț, Ioan. 1953. Influențe maghiare în limba română. In: *Studii și cercetări lingvistice IV*.
- Riggle, Jason. [s.a.]. *Phonological Features Chart* (v11.02). At: http://idiom.ucsd.edu/~bakovic/grad-phonology/fa14/stuff/pdf/PhonChart_v1102.pdf (last accessed on: 10.02.2017).
- Rosetti, Alexandru. 1978. *Istoria limbii române I. – De la origini pînă la începutul secolului al XVII-lea*. Bucharest: Editura Științifică și Enciclopedică.
- Siptár, Péter. 1994. A mássalhangzók. In: Kiefer, Ferenc (ed.), *Strukturális magyar nyelvtan 2. Fonológia*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó. 183–272.
2003. Hangtan. In: É. Kiss, Katalin–Kiefer, Ferenc–Siptár, Péter (eds), *Új magyar nyelvtan*. Budapest: Osiris Kiadó. 287–381.
- Smith, Jennifer. 2017. *Phonological features: Basic model*. At: https://www.unc.edu/~jlsmith/ling200/handouts/04_features.pdf (last accessed on: 10.02.2017).
- Tamás, Lajos. 1966. *Etymologisch-historisches Wörterbuch der ungarischen Elemente im Rumänischen*. Budapest.
- Todoran, Romulus. 1965. Despre influența maghiară în lexicul graiurilor românești din Transilvania. In: Iorgu Iorda (ed.), *Omagiu lui Alexandru Rosetti*. Bucharest: Editura Academiei Republicii Socialiste România.
- Törkenczy, Miklós. 1994. A szótag. In: Kiefer, Ferenc (ed.), *Strukturális magyar nyelvtan 2. Fonológia*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó. 273–392.
2004. *The phonotactics of Hungarian*. Doctor of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences thesis, Budapest. (MS).