SOME REMARKS ON FRENCH INFLUENCE ON INFORMATICS LANGUAGE

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Abstract: Specialised languages are closely related to common language, using the same phonetics and grammar. The differences are manifested mainly in vocabulary, where nouns predominate, against verbs and adjectives. The dictionaries of neologisms and the recent words, register in computers language, in particular, words with French etymology, forcing their assimilation and, thus, continuing the long tradition of lexical loans from French language.

Keywords: neologisms, recent loans, French etymology, common language, specialized language.

The number of terms recently borrowed from Informatics language is very high. In their majority, they have no equivalent in Romanian, being borrowed with the realities they refer; but there are also cases in which the borrowed term is a term of an assumed existing one. Most terms that have recently entered in the language are English and French loans.

It is clear that the vast majority of these loans have been necessary; many terms belonging to certain domains have been entering strictly in public use. We refer particularly to terms of Informatics, which are known today by a greater number of speakers.

Regarding the words and expressions from this field we distinguish between terms appearing in specialised magazines and which are strictly known by Informatics engineers and the terms known to all speakers which come into contact with these words through media, the main channel of penetration of neologisms.

This research aims at a specialized Informatics language analysis at the level of general, etymologic dictionaries (DEX, MDN, DCR). The relationship between the different definitions of Informatics terms and their interpretation by specialised persons, the general dictionaries appear as *semi*

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opened codes[1] which are intermediary placed between specialists' language and literary one. Computing dictionaries have generally fixed cognitive versions.

The relationship of terminology with lexicography represents a complex problem. The field explored - the scientific terminology of informatics - has been limited because of quantitative difficulties, what makes the continuing objective description (with other developed aspects) to be very present.

The phenomenon is inevitable and the Informatics terminology is one of the sources of prolific neologisms. The domain is confronted with an invasion of neologisms and we assist to this phenomenon, considering that Informatics is mainly to be blamed of this afflux of terms of English origin, although many another areas as marketing, publicity, management, etc. may be equally mentioned. A consolation only exists this phenomenon is frequent in all the languages, inclusively French.

The Informatics idiom has only a special situation. If, for instance, the advertising argot is reduced outwards professional circles, the spread of terminology from the area of information technology, has taken, currently, inevitably, mass proportions. Practically, no field will work without the Informatics technologies and this spread in the Romanian houses is a process with a full development.

Comparing the common vocabulary with the specialised one, we noticed that the specialists use more neologisms, promoting communication among linguistic experts in various areas. In the common vocabulary penetrate only common elements of the specialized languages. Excerpts from their professional, object field, these loans are assigned mostly to literary language system as professionalisms and neologisms, understood and, possibly, used occasionally by speakers which do not belong to respective professional area.

Specialized languages are closely linked to the common language, using the same phonetics and grammar. Differences occur, mainly in vocabulary, where nouns prevail, in disfavour of verbs and adjectives. Dictionaries of Neologisms and of recent words assume, in computing, particularly, the etymology of French words, stressing their assimilation, continuing the long tradition of French loans.

[1] Angela Bidu-Vrânceanu, *Dinamica vocabularului românesc după1989. Sensuri „deviate" ale termenilor tehnico ştiinţifici*, Limbă şi literatură, vol. I, 1995, p.12.

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1. Nouns

adaptator, -oare	s.m.f. (< fr. *adapteur*)
adaptor	s.n. (< fr. *adapteur*)
analist[2]*, -ă*	s.m.f. (< fr. *analysta*)
analizor	s.n. (< fr. *analyseur*).
automatic, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *automatique*).
automatician, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *automaticien*)
automatist, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *automatiste*)
avatar	s.n. (< fr. *avatar*)
buffer	s.n. (< fr. *buffer*)
calculator, -oare	s.n. (< fr. *calculateur, lat. calculator*)
calculatorist, ă	s.m.f. (< *calculator+ist*)
cibernetician, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *cybernéticien*)
cibernetic, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *cybernétique*)
click	s.n. (< fr. *click*)
cluster	s.n. (< fr., engl. *cluster*)
compilator, -oare	s.n. (< fr. *compilateur, lat. compilator*)
computist, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *computiste*)
copiator, -oare	s.n. (< *copia* + *-tor*)
crominanță	s.f. (< fr. *chrominance*)
crossbar	s.n. (< fr. *crossbar*)
demultiplexaj	s.n. (< fr. *démultiplexage*)
demultiplexor	s.n. (< fr. *démultiplexeur*)
fişier	s.n. (< fr. *fichier*)
fotocopiat	s.n. (<fr. *fotocopia*)
fotocopiator	s.n. (< *fotocopia* + *-tor*)
fotocopie	s.f. (< fr. *photocopie*)
imprimant, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *imprimante*)
index	s.m. (< fr. *index*)
informatic, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *informatique*)
informatician, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *informaticie*n)
inscriptor	s.n. (< fr. *inscripteur*)
listă	s.f. (< fr. *liste*)
listare	s.f. (< *lista*)
logicial	s.n. (< fr. *logicial*)
macroprogram	s.n. (< fr. *macroprogramme*)
meniu	s.n. (< fr. *menu*)

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mesaj	s.n. (< fr. *message*)
metalimbaj	s.n. (< fr. *métalangage*)
microinformatică	s.f. (< fr. *micro-informatique*)
microordinator	s.n. (< fr. *microordinateur*)
minicalculator	s.n. (< fr. *minicalculateur*)
miniordinator	s.n. (< fr. *miniordinateur*)
monoprogramáre	s.f. (după fr. *monoprogrammatise*)
multiprocesór	s. n. (< fr. *multiprocesseur*)
octet[2]	s.m. (<fr., engl. *octet)*
precompilator	s.n. (< fr. *precompilateur*)
procesór	s.n. (< engl. *processor*, fr. *processeur*)
program	s.n. (< fr. *programme*, germ. *Programm*)
programabilitate	s.f. (< *programabil*+ *-itat*e)
programáre	s.f. (< *programa*)
programotécă	s.f. (< fr. *programmathèque*)
programator, -oare	s.m.f., s.n. (< fr. *programmateur*)
pseudoinstrucţiune	s.f. (< fr., engl. *pseudo-instruction*)
quartét (cuar-)	s.m. (< fr. *quartet*)
retroproiector	s.n. (< fr. *rétroprojecteur*)
retroproiecţie	s.f. (< fr. *rétroprojection*)
retroreflector	s.n. (< *retro-* + *reflector*)
robotic, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *robotique*, engl. *robotics*)
robotician, -ă	s.m.f. (< fr. *roboticien*)
scáner (schenăr)	s.n. (< engl., fr. *scanner*)
sequensér (-chen-)	s.n. (< fr. *séquenceur*)
simulator	s.n. (< fr. *simuláteur*, engl. *simulator*)
spaţiu	s.n. (< lat. *spatium,* după fr. *espace*)
teleinformatic, -ă	s.f. (< fr. *téléinformatique*)
traductor	s.n. (< fr. *traducteur*)
vocabular	s.m. (< fr. *vocabulaire*, lat. *vocabularium*)
zappaj	s.n. zapare; zapping (< *zappa* + *-aj*)
zapping	s.n. zappaj (< fr. *zapping*)

The nouns in IT field fall into two categories: nouns adapted to the language system, which are no longer foreign to the speakers, such as ***avatar, calculator, click, copiator, fişier, index, informatic, informatician, listă, meniu, mesaj, procesor, program, scáner, simulator***, ***vocabular,*** etc., and words in the category of xenisms, foreign words felt by speakers as a

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part of a different lexico-grammar system of the Romanian language. This is manifested in writing by adding desinences or articles using the hyphen: ***buffer, cluster, compilator, quartét, microordinator, miniordinator, monoprogramáre, sequensér, zappaj,*** etc.

Most of the presented nouns fall to neutral gender, achieving plural by using the desinences ***-uri*** or ***-e*** in free variation. Nouns ending mainly in *–r*, performed their plural with desinence *–e:* ***buffer, copiator***, ***cluster, compilator, fişier, microordinator, miniordinator, mesaj, procesor, program, scáner, simulator***, ***vocabular***, etc.

The plural in ***-uri*** is conducted by nouns as*:* ***click, index, menu, quartét***, etc. Although the terminology of informatics confirms the tendency of revival, beyond any limitation of phonetics, of desinence ***-uri***, the French loans prefer desinence ***-e.*** Nouns at female gender form the plural with desinences ***–e*** or ***–i****:* ***calculatorist, cibernetician****,* ***fotocopie, imprimantă, listă, listare, programáre, programotécă, programator, robotic, robotician***, etc.

2. Adjectives

cibernetic, -ă	adj. (< fr. *cybernétique*)
analogic, -ă	adj. (< fr. *analogique*, lat. *analogicus*)
capacitiv, -ă	adj. (<fr. *capacitiv*, engl. *capacitiv*e)
compatibil, -ă	adj. (< fr. *compatible*)
compilabil, -ă	adj. (< fr. *compilable*)
compilativ, -ă	adj. (< *compila* + *- / t / iv*)
copiator, -oare	adj. (< *copia* + *-tor*)
informatic, -ă	adj. (< fr. *informatique*)
informatizabil, -ă	adj. (< fr. *informatisable*)
inscriptibil, -ă	adj. (< fr. *inscripible*)
monoprogramat, -ă	adj. (< fr. *monoprogrammé*)
multriprogramát, -ă	adj. (< fr. *multiprogrammé*)
programábil, -ă	adj. (< engl., fr. *programmable*)
programát, -ă	adj. 1. (< fr. *programmé*)
programátic, -ă	adj. (< germ. *Programmatisch*, fr. *programatique*)
robotic, -ă	adj. (< fr. *robotique*, engl. *robotics*)
teleinformatic, -ă	adj. (< fr. *téléinformatique*)

The adjectives are generally variables with one or two forms to nominative - accusative singular, without article and between two and five

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forms in total. Typical representations of Romanian flexion are considered the adjectives with four forms in total, the type of *bun* m. and n. sg., *bună* f. N.A. sg., *buni* m. pl., *bune* f. and n. pl, G.D. sg., eventually m. V. sg.[2], as are most adjectives borrowed from French in computer language.

At adjectives gender, number and case are expressed, regularly, as well as at nouns through phonetic desinences and changes. Regarding the phonetic changes we should mention that technical neologisms have most alternatives **i - ă**, or more seldom, **o – oa**, retaining **i** and **o***:* ***informatic, -ă, compilativ, -ă , copiator, -oare***, etc.

3. Verbs

automatiza	v.tr. (< fr. *automatiser*)
cibernetiza	vb. tr. (< fr. *cybernétiser*)
compila	vb. tr. (< fr. *compiler*, lat. *compilar*e)
demultiplexa	vb. tr. (< fr. *démultiplexer*)
digitaliza	vb. tr. (< fr. *digitaliser*)
faxá	vb. tr. (< fr. *faxer*)
fotocopia	vb. tr. (< fr. *photocopier*)
indexa	vb. tr. (< fr. *indexer*)
informatiza	vb. tr. (< fr. *informatiser*)
inscripționa	vb. tr. (< *inscripție* + *-ona*)
interclasa	vb. tr. (< fr. *interclasser*)
listá	vb. tr. (< fr. *microprogrammer*)
robotiza	vb. tr. (< fr. *robotiser*)
simulá	vb. tr. (< fr. *simuler*, lat. *simulare*)
zappá	vb. tr. (< fr. *zappe*r)

Verbal loans in the field of Informatics falls into two categories: a group representing terms without equivalents in the language, naming realities emerged recently and a lower number of terms that have entered the language without being needed, forming doublets with existing terms. This is the case of the verb *a printa*, originating in the English language, which has two Romanian language equivalents: *a lista and a imprima* with French etymology.

The pace of renewal for technological innovations have enriched current inventory of words in the IT field, so that in the language of a large

[2] Avram, Mioara, (2001), *Gramatica pentru toți*, p.112.

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masses of persons, have joined many neologic loans which are not recorded in any lexicography work with the exception of speciality ones. We still find in the current dictionaries only the noun – the long infinitive, though in the language the appropriate verb is sometimes used more often: ***automatizare - a automatiza***, ***compilare - a compila, indexare - a indexa, inscripționare - a inscripționa***, ***listare – a listá, simuláre – a simulá, scanare – a scana, zapare; - a zappa,*** etc.

We should notice the large number of recent loans having as derivative the suffix ***-iza,***, which has been engaged in conjugation I: ***a automatiza,*** **a cibernetiza, a digitaliza, a informatiza, a robotiza,** etc., encountered frequently in language. Another case is of the verbs created by adding ***-a*** for the conjugation I: ***a compila***, ***a demultiplexa, a faxá, a fotocopia, a indexa, a inscripționa, a interclasa, a listá,*** etc.

We notice that most of the verbs in computing from the French language are within the conjugation I, the most productive at present, all verbs achieves Present, in the conjugation I, with suffix ***–ez***: ***compilez, listez, inscripționez***, etc.

Conclusions

All dictionaries of specialized computers and Informatics focuses deliberately on English etymology, overstating the provenance of majority IT lent words, while dictionaries of neologisms and of recent words and expressions assume, of computing, particularly, French etymology, stressing their assimilation on the basis of the French loans long traditions.

Direct IT loans have come from English (***antivirus, email, emoticon, hácking, haker, hard, soft, mouse, plotter, server***, etc), with a few exceptions from French: ***avatar, buffer, click, cluster, compilator, index, meniu, mesaj, scanner,*** etc.

As in any other department of language, here in Informatics are prevailing nouns in verbs and adjectives disadvantage, but also suffixes in place of prefixes. The most important problem is fairness by acquiring polisemantic words of the common language used as the words of specialized language of Informatics and, hence, the notion designated by them.

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