SEMANTIC LOAN TRANSLATIONS IN INFORMATICS LANGUAGE

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*Abstract***:** The number of computer terms which Romanian created recently after English language, through derivative affixes and compound elements reveal the increased capacity of the Romanian language of forming new words. On the semantic point of view, there are a large number of semantic formats in Romanian after the English models; the terms obtained seem to belong not only to scientific style, but also to the colloquial or common, increasing their availability. How much loan translations has contributed to enriching Romanian language vocabulary (especially in the long era of modernization and relatinization of our language) we observed in the fact that sometimes were translated series of words that have common root or completely or contain the same affix element.

Key-words: computer terms, loan translations, semantic, Romanian, English.

If we consider the simple operation of assigning new meaning to one existing words in the language of influence, we can speak of loan translation semantic structure. [1] In fact, it is a special sense which, after a long period of use, it is generalized in the usual speech.

The same process of "lending a sense" [2] for an already existing word in Romanian, is found in other cases of metonymy, synecdoche, or metaphors, phenomena that manifests in parallel with transitions from one register to another of that term. It should not be confused with lexical loan itself. Unlike lexical loans (which consists in taking from a foreign language of an expression associated with a semantic content), loan translation the semantic attributes a new meaning to a word already existing in an ancient language, under the influence of semantic foreign correspondent and that it contains and is also local and traditional sense of the word. This means that the influenced word and the lent one must have at least a common sense, making the sense of transfer that model has in addition to the word that it copied.

From the functional point of view, semantic loan translation was perceived both as an asset for the gaining language and also as a threat. In addition to the benefits afforded by semantic loan translation, among which we mention: the development of polysemy and synonymy, linguistic economy, learning ware easier (speakers are familiar with signifiers which are associated with new meanings). The Risk of using semantic loan translation [3] is the insidious nature of this type of loan "dressed" in Romanian coat. Being more difficult to recognize by the speakers unfamiliar with the source-language (English), semantic loan translation can generate errors of speech, confusion like "false friends" and homonymy collisions. As potential sources of error, we mention words like "atelier" (with the meaning "workshop" after engl. workshop), "determinat" (meaning "held", "decided" after engl. determined), "întâmplare" (meaning "improvised show", after engl. happenings) *etc*.

The morpho-lexical loan translations have semantic nature, but most of them are semantic loan translations of words, in Romanian contemporary language after French, English, German or Russian. Etymologically speaking, most semantic loan translations after English are developing polysemic loans of neologisms well established in Romanian.

In computer language we can speak of words that, on the one hand, are used quite frequently in the ordinary language, everyday language (*eg*. address, notice, search, date, *etc*.) and

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on the other hand are parts of some terminologies, at first glance unrelated to computer terminology [4] (*eg.* clone, pipe, grammar, referendum, syntax or root – with the sense that it has in mathematics, computing – "root directory" and linguistic, according to the "square root", "root of a word" *etc*., after the French "racine", *etc.*). Thus, Informatics has been enriched in English and in the languages that it has influenced, in technical language, with a multitude of "ordinary" words the reasons for the penetration of publicly available words in computer terminology appear be pragmatic. [5] At the same time, these words are used in computing as strictly technical terms that also acquire the Romanian terms after English model. We list here some examples, stopping with explanations where necessary:

rom. *accentuare* < engl. *emphasis*

rom. *accesa* < engl. *access*, vb. I, transitive, we find it in DOOM, DOOM 2, DN or MDN with the meanings of informatics: 1. „A avea acces, a intra într-o rețea, într-un program.", 2. „A obține o instrucțiune din memorie, pentru a o executa." (cf. engl. *access*)

rom. *adresă* < engl. *address* it is not in any explanatory dictionary (DEX '98, DOOM, DOOM 2, DN or MDN, its sense in informatics is – „adresă, expresie, operand, sistem de instrucțiuni/a adresa."

rom. *actualiza* < engl. *update* rom. *adăuga* < engl. *add* rom. *aloca* < engl. *allocate* rom. *aplicație* < engl. *apllication* rom. *arhivare* < engl. *archiving*	The same mention as above.

rom. *arhivă* < engl. *archive*

rom. *arhitectură* < engl. *architecture*

rom. *activare* < engl. *activation*

rom. *actualizare* < engl. *update*

rom. *acumulator* < engl. *accumulator*

rom. *asamblare* < engl. *assembling*, registered in DEX '98, DOOM, DN or MDN, as feminine noun, with french etimology, having the meaning in informatics of „operația de traducere în limbaj de mașină a unui program de către asamblor." (MDN, from fr. *assembler*)

rom. *bloc* < engl. *block*, overstating French etymology, observed often in MDN, we find it here, also in the following terms. MDN: informatics – „ansamblu de circuite ale unui ordinator îndeplinind aceeaşi funcție." (< fr. *bloc, blocus*)

rom. *buclă* < engl. *loop*, MDN: informatics – „secvență din instrucțiunile unui program care se execută de mai multe ori până se satisfac anumite condiții." or cybernetics – „suită de efecte în care ultimul corespunde celui dintâi." (< fr. *boucle*)

rom. *buton* < engl. *button*

rom. *câmp* < engl. *field*, MDN: informatics – „subîmpărțire din punct de vedere logic a unei cartele conținând, fiecare, o informație reprezentată codificat." (fr. *champ*, lat. *campus*)

rom. *compatibilitate* < engl. *compatibility*

rom. *comprimare* < engl. *compression*

rom. *configurare* < engl. *configuration*, MDN: informatics – „A interpreta comenzile unui sistem de operare." (< fr. *configurer*, lat. *configurare*)

rom. *dosar* < engl. *folder*

rom. *dată* < engl. *date*

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rom. *imagine* < engl. *image,* cu sensul de „percepție publică”

rom. *a apela* < engl. *call*, fr. *appeler*, vb., I, transitive, MDN: informatics – „A cere, a încerca să obțină (date, informații).*”* (fr. *appeler,* lat. *appellare*)

rom. *a opera* < engl. *to operate*

rom. *pachet* < engl. *package,* neuter, MDN: informatics – „subdiviziune a unui mesaj, în anumite tipuri de rețele.” (engl, fr. *package*) with the sense present in phrases as *pachet de legi*, *pachet de acțiuni,* and in IT: *pachet de mesaje* (*message packet*), *pachet de trasare* (*trace packet*), *pachet de date ale utilizatorilor* (*user data*), the last one being a translation from the lexical family of the noun *data*

rom. *pirat* < engl. *pirate,* used adjectivally, meaning *„clandestin”, „neautorizat”* (cf. *post de radio pirat*, *program pirat*), see also vb. *a pirata* and the noun *piraterie*, from the same semantic area; it is not registered in any of the etymological researched dictionaries, with its sense in informatics.

rom. a *descărca, (a downloada and a coborî de pe Internet*) < engl. *to download*

rom. *a naviga* < engl. *to surf*

rom. *navigator* < engl. *surfer*

rom. *a salva* < engl. *to save*

rom. *vierme* < engl. *worm*

rom. *fereastră* < engl. *window,* attested in MDN, but not with informatics meaning, but with its generic: s. n. *fereastră, geam; vitrină*. (< engl. *window*)

rom. *virus* < engl. *virus,* s. n. / m., pl. *vírusuri / víruşi*, registered in MDN: informatics – „program cu efecte distructive asupra calculatoarelor.” (< fr., lat. *virus*) *etc.*

As we noted, on the one hand, the importance of French is exaggerate, at least in some explanatory dictionaries (see MDM), recorded exclusively for the penetration of neologisms of Anglo-American origin [6] in computer language, but moreover, IT terminology is the largest presented in this dictionary (DCR, being less documented).

Recent examples and with great frequency as verbs *a downloada* and *a coborî de pe* Internet) and their derivatives alternating: “poate fi downloadat”, “coborârea de pe net”, “a descărca de pe Internet”, etc., but also “a infecta (cu un virus)”. The shocking usage of *a downloada* (the verb) refers to the fact that it has not, on the one hand, a Latin etymological basis (like the verb *a accesa*), and on the other hand, its pronunciation is not as easy as some verbs like *a printa*, *a scana*, or even *a accesa*. On the contrary [7], it has a difficult in spelling, by the presence of *w* and the two diphthongs in two successive syllables (*ow* and *oa*), typical for English, and a notable difference in writing and speech. Attestations of this verb are numerous at all tenses, being also used as the neuter plural in *– uri* (*downloadul, downloaduri,* etc.). In parallel, it circulates the verb “a descărca” produced in Romanian by semantic loan translation, synonymous with *a downloada*, its first advantage being the native form, and on the other hand, having the polysemy disadvantage and the lack of specialization. [8]

The risks generated by semantic polysemy of loan translations are highlighted by the term *pirate* and its lexical family (*a pirata, piraterie, piratare*). Both MDN and DCR2 record only the adjectival meaning of the term (in combination *radio/stație- pirat*), synonymous with “clandestin, neautorizat”, indicating a French model. All three values of the term which circulates today in the media, in computer science and common language are loan translation after English. The etymology of the term comes from Greek (πειρατής, peiratés) which means “agresor”, as we find the word in Latin *pirata*, in French *pirate* (the terms spread to other languages). Thus, we have several attestations in Romanian:

- Structure loan translation of *radio-pirat* (after engl. *pirate radio*) updates the meaning of “the broadcasting of radio programs illegally” of the noun *pirat*, by extension, the same effect occurs in combining *ştire-pirat*.

- Semantic loan translation represented by *pirat* - adjective used with the meaning of “clandestin, neautorizat” - corresponds to the significance of “a pirate version of something is an

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illegal copy of it": "varianta pirat a unui film, joc pe calculator", etc. The same meaning circulates as the participial adjective *piratat* and noun *piraterie*, which presuppose the existence of a verb (*a pirata*), attested in our corpus. The phrase "*act de piraterie"* is used in alternation with "copierea ilegală a filmelor de pe Internet" and glossed in a cvasi-definied way accessible to nonspecialists "a coborî muzică de pe net este un act de piraterie", "Dosare penale pentru piraterie informatică*"* (Hotnews.ro, Monday, February 15, 2010).

- The noun *pirat* appears as agent, corresponding to English meaning of "someone sells it illegally", while, it circulates in Romanian with the English meaning of *hacker* „spărgător de coduri": „Interesul generat de gripa A/H1N1 a fost exploatat de piraţii informaticii pentru a produce un virus sub forma unui document ataşat care ar conţine dezvăluiri din categoria teoriei conspiraţiei." [9] (Realitatea.net, 11 sep., 2009) sau *„*Creierul" piraţilor informatici e la Londra!*"* [10] (Piteşteanul.ro, Luni, 15 Februarie 2010*)*

The number of computer terms which Romanian created recently after English language, through derivative affixes and compound elements reveal the increased capacity of the Romanian language of forming new words. On the semantic point of view, there are a large number of semantic formats in Romanian after the English models; the terms obtained seem to belong not only to scientific style, but also to the colloquial or common, increasing their availability. How much loan translations has contributed to enriching Romanian language vocabulary (especially in the long era of modernization and relatinization of our language) we observed in the fact that sometimes were translated series of words that have common root or completely or contain the same affix element.

On the syntactic point of view, we noted the large number of terms obtained by translating the English equivalents, noticeable differences are generally at nouns, especially topics, because of the difference between Romanian and English, largely affecting the grammatical structure, loan translations change, the lexical structure of Romanian and, in particular, the scientific vocabulary, informatics one, in this case.

The negative influence that translations have in several variants of the same term in textbooks or magazines, often raises major problems of proper understanding of those not familiar with English. As a method of vocabulary enrichment, loan translations play a much more important role than is admitted, but this role is not sufficiently well known and recognized in speciality treaties or in Romanian Explanatory dictionaries.

The action of increasing the literary language can not be reduced to a simple alert, explanation and correction of errors which occur particularly in the writing aspect of our present language. What should we be interested in, among others, in this fundamental cultural activity is, of course, enriching the language with new lexical and phraseologic units, designed not only to designate the previously unknown facts, but also to contribute to a more accurate and more nuanced expression.

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