

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE  
Filozofická fakulta

BAKALÁŘSKÁ PRÁCE

UNIVERZITA KARLOVA V PRAZE  
Filozofická fakulta  
Ústav obecné lingvistiky

BAKALÁŘSKÁ PRÁCE

Vyjadřování času, aspektu a způsobu v turečtině: případová  
analýza morfému *-ecek/-acak*  
Tense-aspect-mood marking in Turkish: Case analysis of *-ecek/-  
acak*

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**Vedoucí práce**  
Mgr. Jan Křivan

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Prohlašuji, že jsem vypracoval práci samostatně, řádně jsem citoval všechny použité prameny a literaturu a že práce nebyla využita v rámci jiného vysokoškolského studia či k získání jiného nebo stejného titulu.

Podpis:

Rád bych na tomto místě poděkoval především Mgr. Janu Křivanovi za rady, které mi poskytl při konzultacích věnovaných této práci. Za radost při psaní této práce vděčím skvělému ovzduší na ústavu obecné lingvistiky, ale i mimo ni bych rád poděkoval dalším kolegům, ať již z řad pedagogů nebo studentů, z diskuzí s nimi bylo lze čerpat mnohé. Neposlední díky také patří mé informantce Hande Terzi, bez níž by tato práce nebyla možná.

Filip Kaas

## **Anotace**

Předmětem předkládané práce je analýza tureckého slovesného morfému -ecek/acak. Tento morfém bývá popisován a klasifikován různými badateli značně různorodě (jako čas, aspekt, nebo způsob), ovšem jen s malým ohledem na skutečné jazykové užívání. Předkládaná práce si klade za cíl provést korpusovou studii na empirických datech, vyhodnotit je kvalitativní metodou a na tomto základě navrhnout nové možnosti v popisu významu morfému. Z hlediska metodologického bude využit především analytický potenciál konstrukční gramatiky. Hlavním cílem práce je pak shrnout dosavadní literaturu o popisu tohoto tureckého morfému, zhodnotit adekvátnost jednotlivých tradičních popisů a posléze navrhnout popis takový, který by odrážel jeho fungování v jazyce. Podružným cílem práce je diskuze o psaní gramatik a o statusu deskriptivních kategorií v protikladu ke komparativním konceptům v lingvistické praxi.

## **Klíčová slova**

čas, aspekt, způsob, turečtina, -ecek/-acak, budoucí čas, prospektiv, epistemická modalita, deontická modalita, konstrukční gramatika

## **Abstract**

The goal of the submitted paper is analysis of Turkish verbal morpheme -ecek/acak. This morpheme is described and classified by different scholars in various ways (as tense, aspect, or modality), language usage being used scarcely in the description. The presented thesis proposes to perform a corpus study on empirical data, that are interpreted by qualitative methods, and on this basis the author will propose new ways to describe the morpheme. From the methodological perspective will be used the analytical potential of Construction Grammar. The main goal of this paper is to summarize existing literature about this morpheme, evaluate the descriptive adequacy of the traditional description, and eventually suggest description, that would reflect its language usage. Secondary aim of this paper is discussion about grammaticography, and the status of descriptive categories vs. comparative concepts in linguistic practice.

## **Keywords**

tense, aspect, mood, Turkish, -ecek/-acak, future tense, prospective, epistemic modality, deontic modality, Construction Grammar

Futurity is never a purely temporal concept; it necessarily includes an element of prediction or some related notion.

(Lyons 1977: 677, 816)

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

This paper is a bachelor thesis written during my studies of linguistics and Turkish studies in the years 2012-2015 at Charles University in Prague. In next paragraphs I will summarize the contents of the paper.

Although the title of this paper implies, that an analysis of the Turkish morpheme *-ecek/acak* will follow, this paper has much broader range of problems to address. It deals in a certain way with topics, that are traditionally considered part of semantics (analysis of meaning), and linguistic typology (TAM categories), but I will touch also some of the problems of linguistics as a discipline.

My paper is structured into three sections. Each section corresponds to a specific goal I have pursued. First objective has been the detailed re-reading of the linguistic literature, that deals with description, and classification of TAM markers (tense, aspect, and modality). I will follow this literature in two languages: English and Turkish. The discussion can be, roughly speaking, caricatured as pursuing the following question: "does a specific morpheme X in a language Y belong to the category of tense, aspect, or modality?" I realize that this is not the only question, that language description poses, when describing particular language. However, even if polysemy is admitted in TAM system for one morpheme, there is often one category, that is chosen as the primary one. In this practice it is often argued, that this category is somewhat more "basic". The aim of writing this paper has been to put an end to this type of discussions in linguistics.

I have chosen to re-read the discussion of TAM categorization in two languages: (i) Turkish, because this discussion was the original reason for this work, and also my analysis will be performed on Turkish, and (ii) English, because the history of this discussion in this language is richer than in others, and there is no obstacle in extending the validity of findings in one language to other (these discussions are part of linguistic typology paradigm).

The second objective is to discuss the practice of analysis of meaning, that is used by linguists. Ascribing meaning to form (in the broad sense of Saussurean sign) is not straightforward procedure as we will see in the first chapter. I will show, what are the two most common practices in grammaticography, and how they relate to the center-periphery distinction of Prague Linguistic Circle. I feel the need to comment on the current practice of analysis of meaning for two reasons. The first is, that I will use it later for my own analysis. The second, I will argue that there can be a lot of phenomena that are a factor in meaning interpretation, and the position of linguist is, that he needs to somehow abstract of them to be able to do the science.

In this chapter I will also comment on related linguistic practice of glossing saying that glossing applies different standard for the two extremes of center-periphery dichotomy. I will

discuss the "level of detail" with which linguist works and can work, and from this position I will bring arguments against this linguistic practice. The discourse in this chapter will border sometimes the general theory of science.

The last and the most extensive section of this paper will be my analysis of Turkish TAM system. I have chosen one morpheme for this analysis (the scope of this paper doesn't allow me to do more extensive analysis). It is a verbal suffix, and has two forms *-ecek* /edʒek/ or *-acak* /adʒak/ distributed according to the vowel harmony in Turkish language. The morpheme *-ecek/acak* was described in the history of Turkish descriptive linguistics as the marker of future tense (relative and absolute), as the prospective aspect, and also as modal marker (in first section 2.2 I will provide more detailed account of the previous descriptions).

With help of Construction Grammar and Frame Semantics, I will try to identify constructions that contain the marker (setting aside some of the forms of "participles", or "complex tenses"), analyze their meaning, and try to show, how it could be argued (or not) for all three TAM categories. The results should be comprised of a set of constructions with specified interpretations (in terms of TAM categories). My data will come from a corpus of Turkish language called METU Corpus. I will interpret the meaning of the morpheme on a sample of concordances. The interpretation will be conducted with a cooperation with a native speaker of Turkish.

As this paper should show, that I will be able one day to produce linguistic research, I will cast aside the humble cloak of undergraduate student, and won't withdraw myself from criticism of what I think is a fruitless effort in linguistics. Another by-product of the character of the paper is, that even though it has very specific assignment, it won't be a walk straight to finish. In many parts the width of the work will increase as I will touch other topics of linguistics. This practice is not preferred in Anglo-Saxon tradition of academic style, but I believe it is a small sacrifice compared to the benefits for building up my case. I have often battled with stylistics throughout writing this paper. There are many occasions, where author needs to choose between stylistic variety and clarity of the content, often the winner sadly needs to be the latter.

It has become almost obligatory in last decades for every linguistic work outside of Chomskyan linguistics to comment on generative grammar. Generative grammar is a specific current in linguistics, and I think, that the criticism of this approach has been already well formulated by other authors. I join the group of critics of generative approach by the last instance of humor: there are no trees in this paper.

## 2 HISTORY OF THE PROBLEM

### 2.1 Discussion of TAM classification in English

Firstly, I will note, that I will leave the terms of tense, aspect, and mood undefined for the whole length of this chapter (although they will be mentioned every now and then). In this chapter I will guide the reader through the short summary of the discussions about TAM categories in two particular languages (English and Turkish). First I will re-read history of the discussion of the status of English words *will* and *shall*, after that, I will continue to follow this discussion in Turkish. At the end of the chapter I will stop at practices, that are used in grammars of Turkish, for describing verbal morphology. And in the very end I will comment one of the last attempts to classify the morpheme *-ecek/acak*.

I will start discussion of TAM categories in English with the enormous work of Otto Jespersen: *Modern English grammar on historical principles*, the part of which (the 4th Volume), is a treatment of "Time and Tense" as he remarks in the preface (Jespersen 1931: V). The Jespersen's treatment of TAM categories (this term of much later provenience) is famous since he first analyzed the English verbs *will* and *shall* in its modal uses (Jespersen 1931: 235-299), and his conclusion is that English language has no future tense at all. Already Fries (1927) argued, that it is possible to show the absence of future tense in English, and Palmer notes (1986: 104), that the idea is being carried from Latin grammars.

For the rest of the history of the discussion I will follow Feryal (1980: 139). Next important contribution to the discussion was Binnick (1971: 1972). He argued for quasi-modal function of expressions with *will* and *be going to* by showing their presuppositional differences, that govern the use of these (Feryal 1980: 139). Lakoff (1972) has classified the *will* among the epistemic modals of English showing the highest degree of certainty. Ultan (1972) points out, that the close relationship between future tense and modality is due to the character of future time as something uncertain, what haven't happened yet.

This discussion still continues - in nineties Enç (1996) claims, that there is no future tense in English. I will quote the grammar of Huddleston & Pullum (2005) from the current millenium, where the two authors conclude:

In this section we treat a special feature of the meaning of one modal, **will**. There are some languages that have a three-term tense system contrasting past, present and future. Contrary to what is traditionally

assumed, English is not one of them: it has no future tense. It does have several ways of talking about future time, and the most basic one does involve the auxiliary **will**. Nonetheless, **will** belongs grammatically and semantically with the auxiliaries that mark mood rather than with the various markers of tense.

(Huddleston & Pullum 2005: 56, letters in bold are original)

It seems that the current state of the arts is, that one part of linguistic community talks about modal verb, that is used for marking future time reference, some of the others talk about the future tense, that by the way express also mood.

The problem is, that argumentation for one of these two view is either missing, or there is line of thought that leads to conclusion, that the target meaning is somewhat more basic. Without any decisive arguments, the line of argumentation can be easily reversed, so these discussions often resemble dogmatic disputes in theology, rather than linguistic reasoning. On the other hand, the argumentation for "basic" meaning can lead to interesting results in linguistics, but as such is unacceptable for me.

## 2.2 Discussion of TAM classification in Turkish

In Turkish language the situation is very similar. In this part, I will present works that deal with the morpheme *-ecek/acak*, and set aside other morphemes, that suffer from the same problem (e.g. the so-called aorist). The first very influential account for verbal markers in Turkish is Johanson's paper named *Aspekt im Türkischen* published in 1971. This work laid a foundation to his much broader cross-linguistic analysis of TAM categories for Turkish (Johanson 1994), and for other European languages (Johanson 2000).

His approach starts in conceptualizing the grammatical categories of tense and aspect into one semantic space. He then cuts the "pluri-dimensional space of linguistic concepts comprising aspect, actionality, and temporality" to pieces that are cross-linguistically comparable. He works with the so called viewpoint operators representing different concepts of "terminality and actional contents" (Johanson 2000: 27). His approach is independent on classical labels of TAM terminology as perfective, imperfective, progressive, etc., but these are also isolated as products of his approach. Even though this approach is very influential in Turkic linguistics, I have not found any trace of it in grammars of Turkish.

Gerd Jendraschek in his article about Turkish TAM system submits an overview of the previous discussions of the Turkish morpheme *-ecek/acak* in terms of TAM categories (Jendraschek, 2014: 11-12). He points out that the morpheme was classified by different grammar, people, or

articles to different categories. I will quote the paragraph:

For the *-ecek* exponent, we find the labels PROSPECTIVE / FUTURE , assigned to the category aspect (Bassarak & Jendraschek 2004); FUTURE , understood as a term in the category tense (Underhill 1976; Çakır 2009; Ersen-Rasch 2004; Kornfilt 1997; Lewis 1967); or FUTURE , this time as a marker of “relative tense”, contrasting with the category “absolute tense”, which in Turkish would have only the terms “past” and “non- past” (Göksel & Kerslake 2005: 326). Johanson (1994: 248-255) does not distinguish between tense and aspect, and interestingly, he seems to suggest that *-ecek* yields FUTURE forms with PROSPECTIVE semantics, but could primarily be a DEONTIC modal perspective.

As he also ironically points out Turkish (also with English) is among one of the supposedly best described languages of the world. There is a long tradition of description beginning with Arabic grammarians from early middle ages. Jendraschek also mentions Haspelmath's article (2000), that criticize the agglutination hypothesis, in which the author accuses the linguistics of being Turcocentric (in way that for a language being agglutinative means to be like Turkish). It is beyond dispute that Turkish and English are both languages about which there is a plenty written about. What does that means for us though, if there is no consensus in two well described languages about classifying one quite important morpheme. It seems that it is a problematic task to classify a single verbal morpheme in a particular language into a pre-identified category.

If we take another look on the quoted overview of Turkish grammars (the same problem is in description of English), it seems that it was opted for all the options (tense, aspect, and mood). That is a state that is usually not deemed desirable in linguistics. I do not speak even about classification of a morpheme to a certain value of a grammatical category (although this seems to be also problem - absolute vs. relative tense), but as we have seen, I speak about problems to classify a certain morpheme to one of the TAM categories - either tense, aspect, or mood.

Another problem that I feel calls for attention is the lack of definite meaning of words such as "tense" throughout the history of description (and it is a long history, ours beginning somewhere with Latin grammars). If we take another look at the grammars and compare them, it will seem to be trivial truth that the word "tense" doesn't mean the same thing in 60s and 80s. The grammars differ in the time, according to when they were published, as well as it can be due to "linguistic perspective" of the author (how would generative grammar of Turkish look like, what would classifying something as tense mean there?). Certainly older grammars from 60s did not refer to theoretical work done in 70s as today's grammars might have done. To classify a morpheme in a category could mean something else in grammars that have different audience in mind (e.g. academia for Göksel & Kerslake (2005), and students of Turkish for Ersen-Rasch (2001)). The

point is, that even if there would be a total agreement and all the grammars (every grammar would put *-ecek/acak* in the very same category), there is still no reason to believe, that it is the same thing.

## 2.3 Analysis of Turkish grammars

The goal next couple pages will be to trace the morpheme *-ecek/acak* in various grammars of Turkish language, so that the reader can make his own image, how different or similar are the descriptions. I will simply search for the form *-ecek/acak*, elicit the various descriptions, and discuss the findings. I will choose three grammars (from the quotation of Jendraschek), that deem the morpheme *-ecek/acak* to belong in the same category of "future tense". All of these grammars belong to the discourse of present-day general linguistics, even though they differ in the approach, year of publication, and are primarily aimed at different audience.

### 2.3.1 Method of analysis

With every single opened publication I will try to follow a few simple steps, so the description of grammar will be comparable for the reader. I will try to create a simple easy-to-use method for browsing grammars, which I will describe in the following section. My personal opinion when doing research with help of grammars is, that blindly copying the description is not useful at all, when the researcher does not try to understand the author's background.

The first step of my grammar analysis will be two questions: (1) brief characterization of the publication (e.g. goal of the publication, etc.), if there is any (usually mentioned in the preface); (2) to pose a question what kind of Turkish is it written about. As this question might seem trivial and it may just show that all grammars literally "talk about the same thing", that being Turkish, many authors try to evade the answer. I need to note also, that there is no longer general consensus about some hypothetical "unity" of language, as language variation in many forms (sociolinguistic, dialectological, diachronic, written/spoken, stylistic) slowly crept into the grammarian's subconsciousness. The language variety can be dealt with in two ways. It can be explicitly defined by the author (he can also choose more than multiple varieties, and show how they differ from one another during his work), or it is possible to find the answer with a look at the data the author uses. So as part of this step I will try to outline what data were used - corpora, introspection, or other.

The next step will be to find out to what linguistic theory does the author adhere. This is not simple step for two reasons. First reason is, that it is not common practice for an author of a grammar to acknowledge his or her theoretical inclinations, or his background (it starts to be common practice in a few other disciplines). But I believe that some surface characteristics can be stumbled upon, if we discuss the usage of terminology and assess the overall structure of grammar. Some of methods used in this part can be inspired by discourse analysis. The second reason, why

this is not an easy question is, that there is a widespread belief (especially in grammar writing), that not theoretical (pre-theoretical, or theory-neutral) stance can be assumed. This stance was once called basic linguistic theory (until Basic linguistic theory superseded its place in the sun, cf. Dryer 2006).

The hunt for author's theory I divide in a few more simple and more relevant questions. First question will be (i) what is the academic history and theoretical background of author, followed by (ii) what is the general line of thought of the grammar (what is the pattern, that ensure, that in the end the whole language is being described - onomasiological, semasiological approach), and (iii) how does the author deal with the language-specific and cross-linguistic categories, and how does he or she separate and use the grammatical and the notional categories. If there would any incongruences to occur throughout the grammar, I would prime the part of the book concerned with TAM verbal morphology.

The third step will consist of close observation of author's description of the morpheme *-ecek/acak*. I will try to trace every reference to this morpheme in given publication and summarize all the functions, that are ascribed to it. The climax of the whole investigation will of course lie in the label, that is attached to the morpheme, as well as the arguments presented in order to give the morpheme a specific name or subsume the morpheme under specific category. If we look at the morpheme from the point of view of Saussure's theory of sign we will keep track of all signifié(s) belonging to this one signifiant, in other words what functions the incriminated morpheme has. The other direction I will not watch as this would surpass the scope of this work even though I would be interested in the results.

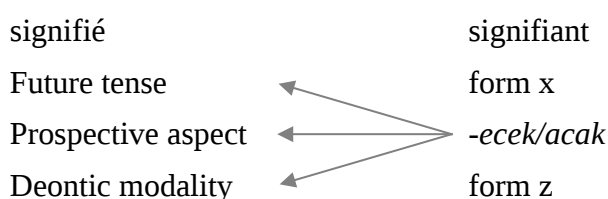


Table 1: The observed relations within the sign.

It can look like that I devoted a lot of space to vague and unnecessary information, but I consider this investigation important not only in order to properly interpret the description of a single morpheme, but I also hold, that it has consequences for the current practice of linguistic typology (as all three are grammars that are used as source). I will analyze three grammars from the cited list of Gerd Jendraschek (Geoffrey Lewis 1967, Jaklin Kornflit 1997, and instead of Ersen-

Rasch 2004, I am going to use Ersen-Rasch 2012). Even though they classify the morpheme *-ecek/acak* into the same category (absolute tense), and ascribe it the same value (future), I will attempt to show the differences among them. I didn't choose these grammars by chance, the choice serves my goal to exemplify later some of my thoughts.

### 2.3.2 Geoffrey Lewis 1967'

Grammar of Geoffrey Lewis was first published in 1967. However, as late as this paper being written it has kept its place on the pedestal of Turkish grammars (e.g. it is by far the most often cited source for Turkish in WALS). Geoffrey Lewis does not note any intended users of the grammar, but next quote from introduction points, that non-academic audience was not excluded:

An introductory word must be said about agglutination, as it is this feature which English-speakers find most alien, although it does occur in English to a limited extent in such word as carelessness.

(Lewis 2000: xx)

In the first sentence Lewis specifies the subject of the book simply as Turkish (or Turkish of Turkey). As he admits later, he is primarily concerned with written language, although there are quite some references to colloquial spoken Turkish. The examples given to illustrate the observed phenomena do not come from a corpus. They have been drawn from different kinds of Turkish publications (predominantly newspapers). My observation is that many of the examples are idioms and proverbs (usually used for exemplification of more fossilized phenomena). The examples are not glossed, although some of them have morphematic segmentation.

The author himself does not endorse any theoretical framework. His bibliography is rather meagre in comparison to more recent grammars. In the second edition published in year 2000 there are six other grammars referred, and only one linguistic article (about syntax of Turkish). Roughly speaking, the shape and style of the book somehow reminds the tradition of grammar writing, that could be epitomized in Turkic environment by structural grammars of Nicolas Poppe. In many parts of the book there are comparisons of Turkish and English. In many places etymology of morphological forms is mentioned.

Geoffrey Lewis, even though he wrote grammar that was revolutionary, and for many years hold its place in the sun, did not study general linguistics. He was a professor of Turkish language, and his background resembles Oriental philology more than that of general linguist (he studied Arabic and Persian, wrote papers about Turkish history). I don't want to imply at all, that he has no knowledge of linguistics whatsoever (as he wouldn't be able to write a grammar in the first place), rather I want to point out that some problems that general linguistics produced at that time, does not



have to be considered in the grammar. Or even better, he could have slightly different audience in mind at the time of writing.

The grammar is divided into chapters, the book starts with phonology, and later continues with describing parts of speech one by one. Grammar seem to proceed by function to form direction, but this practice is deceptive. I identified these practices: (1) category from English language (or possibly from other language, thinking about Latin), e.g. gender, is proposed and discussed (although there is no systematic distinction of gender in Turkish); (2) single grammatical form is labeled and then the form is listed under its label in appropriate section; (3) where inventing a label for a grammatical form would be too unnatural or the label would be too obscure, the form is listed under its own phonological form. Most of the functions list only one form as fulfilling the whole function (this stems directly from practice no. (2)). Sometimes an additional paragraph is dedicated to the usage of a given function.

The case of the *-ecek/acak* morpheme is described under the chapter on verbal morphology (Lewis 2000: 111), in a section entitled Future. I will briefly cite parts of the two paragraphs from the book (Future, Uses of the future):

The characteristic is **-ecek**, added directly to the consonant-stems ... This tense is used, like the English future, to express not only what is going to happen but what the speaker wants to happen: *sigara içmekten vazgeçeceksin* 'you are going to give up smoking cigarettes' ... Also as in English, the third person expresses a confident assumption: *şimdi merdivenden çıkan Ahmet olacak* literally 'the one now coming upstairs will be Ahmet', ...

(Lewis 2000: 111; bold-face is original)

The verbal morphology is divided into two categories: tenses and moods (Lewis 2000: 106). The label future is in the category of tense. The use of both the categories tense as well as mood have no separate description. They are probably terms copied from English grammar, or inherited from previous descriptions of Turkish. Thus there is no contradiction if Lewis creates a label future, says it is a tense and adds that it express also what the speaker wants to happen and a confident assumption.

### 2.3.3 Jaklin Kornflit 1997'

The grammar of Jaklin Kornflit was first published in 1997. It belongs to the series of grammars called Descriptive grammars. This series began with aspiration for more serious work in linguistic typology and as a reaction against practice of writing grammars, that were hardly comparable, because they developed specific terminology or have been written in a specific manner

(like generative grammars are). This grammar is written within the framework called Questionnaire, that was designed by Bernard Comrie, and it provides the grammarian with the structure of grammar and linguistic terminology needed for the description. The Questionnaire is to be:

(a) sufficiently comprehensive to cover the major structures of any language that are likely to be of theoretical interest; (b) sufficiently explicit to make cross-language comparisons a feasible undertaking (in particular, through the detailed numbering key); and (c) sufficiently flexible to encompass the range of variety that is found in human language

(Kornflit 1997: iii).

The author proclaims the subject of the grammar to be Modern Standard Turkish, standardization of the Istanbul dialect of Anatolian. The data comes from texts, other grammar books and author's intuition (checked against native speaker's intuition), as to the variation in the language the "examples are drawn from different levels of vocabulary - contemporary and old, official and colloquial" (Kornflit 1997: i). The examples are glossed and translated. Another statement from the book can give us an image of the goal of the grammar (Kornflit 1997: i):

Whilst Turkish has a number of properties that are similar to other languages of the same morphological and syntactic type, it has distinct and interesting characteristics which are given full coverage in this book.

Jaklin Kornflit studied applied linguistics, theoretical linguistics, and translational studies. Bibliography of her grammar consists of more than 60 entries, only four of them were written before 1970. Where Geoffrey Lewis begins with phonology, this grammar starts with expressing the difference between direct and indirect speech within the chapter of syntax. The Questionnaire structure of the grammar ensures that nothing of relevance for linguistic typologist will be omitted (as of current interest in 1990s), on the other hand it depends on the author, how much space he devotes to a specific question (some of the questions are answered only by yes/no).

The morpheme *-ecek/acak* is mentioned in section of verbal morphology. It is labeled as future tense marker, but it is noted, that tense markers in Turkish have often aspectual functions, and some also function as mood markers (Kornflit 1997: 336). I quote paragraph that is titled future:

The future suffix has the shape **-(y)AcAK**: [example follows]

It should be noted that the aorist form can also have the function of future tense, especially when used as a promise: [examples]

In this usage as a promise, the aorist commits the speaker less than the regular future tense suffix: [examples]

There is a sense of greater commitment and definiteness in this last example, as compared to the previous

one.

In colloquial, informal style, the present progressive form can also be used with future function: [examples]

(Kornflit 1997: 340, bold-face is original)

The morpheme *-ecek/acak* is mentioned in section titled "Relative tenses (relative to a point in the past)", where she says (Kornflit 1997: 340): "Here, the future tense marker expresses a time reference which lies in the future with respect to a point in time in the past". In part about participles: "It can have mood values when used as participle (as a modifier, or with an auxiliary verb)" (Kornflit 1997: 341). Both of these ("compound tense" and "participle") uses I will set aside though. Throughout the verbal section it is glossed in three ways: Fut. (Future tense), FNomFut. (Future Nominal Factive), and Fut.ObjP (Future Objective Participle). Except of some complex morphological forms, the morpheme is not mentioned in sections about aspect and mood. The categories used in this grammar are cross-linguistic, as there is no other option when some pre-conceived set of questions is applied to a particular language.

#### **2.3.4 Margarete I. Ersen-Rasch 2012'**

The third text of my analysis will be the grammar of Ersen-Rasch (2012), which is not the exact same grammar as Jendraschek mentions in the quoted paragraph (Ersen-Rasch 2004). As the first grammar has somewhat a character of a textbook for language learners, the book I chose converges a little more with the discourse of general linguistics. The grammar's of Ersen-Rasch are the most prestigious books for learning Turkish in Germany. The book is written as a reference book (Nachschlagewerk) for Turkish learners, and it should cover all the aspects of Turkish (from levels A1-C2). The type of Turkish is described as Standard Turkish of Turkey, variety based on Istanbul dialect. The examples are graded by their difficulty for Turkish learners, and their provenience is unknown.

The author is Turcologist, her list of publications show a lot of work dedicated to writing Turkish grammars for learners. In the bibliography of the grammar there is more than 100 publications, ranging from Old Turkic to general linguistic handbooks. The book starts with phonology, continues with general chapters about words, parts of speech and structure of word, after which chapters dedicated to parts of speech one-by-one take place. The verb is withdrawn from the classical order, and it is moved to the last place. There it is dealt with in multiple chapters (one of them is Die Zeitformen "The forms of tense/time"). The scope of the book is closed by several chapter about syntax. The form-to-function approach seems to appear systematically throughout the chapters dedicated to verbs.

Ersen-Rasch defines three aspectotemporal terms Tempus (similar to absolute tense), Aspekt

(aspect, she distinguishes continuous, punctual, and perfect), and Aktionsart (which I don't have to translate). The future is treated under the section simple tenses (as opposed to complex tenses). In the section dedicated to future, there is no semantic description of the future tense. It must be inferred from the previous general definition of Tempus (but even there is no mention about what future is), so only way the reader can interpret the meaning is from the translated examples. On the other hand there is a note, that planned intentions are sometimes expressed with future tense, moreover the future tense can have modal meanings (Ersen-Rasch 2012: 164):

Kennzeichen des Futurs ist ...

[inflection paradigm]

[note about pronunciation]

Mit dem Futur werden geplante Vorhaben formuliert. Allerdings kann das Futur auch modale Nuancen haben, die mit "müssen/sollen/wollen" wiedergegeben werden: [examples].

The morpheme is mentioned also later when discussing other constructions (e.g. "I will have *something*").

### 2.3.5 Conclusions

As we have seen in the analysis, the three grammars are rather different in the description. They are products of different time periods (1967, 1997, 2012), coming from different backgrounds (Oriental studies, linguistic typology, language education). They use different ways to describe the linguistic reality, where Lewis utilizes the structure of classic grammar and historical linguistics, Kornflit's book follows the outline of Questionnaire, and Ersen-Rasch moves somewhere between language description and pedagogy.

Before I comment further on the analysis I take one step back and return to the article of Gerd Jendraschek (2014). The title of the article is: Future tense, prospective aspect, and irrealis mood as part of the situation perspective: Insights from Basque, Turkish, and Papuan. The subject of the thesis is the problematic label of future tense, that was applied in Turkish, Basque, and Iatmul. He argues instead for a label 'aspect' in Turkish and Basque, and 'irrealis' in Iatmul. Jendraschek's interest in TAM categories in Turkish was first demonstrated in 2004 (Bassarak & Jendraschek 2004). This work continues in the claim that was already laid in Bassarak & Jendraschek (2004), and Jendraschek (2011) by adding evidence from other languages.

For Turkish he claims, that the future-time reference marker *-ecek/acak* has different "basic meaning" (prospective aspect), and future time reference is a "conventionalized inference in

appropriate context" (Jendraschek 2014: 27). He argues with grammaticalization processes that leads from lower to higher level of abstraction, this process is described in Fleischmann (1983) and Bybee, Perkins & Pagliuca (1994). I won't argue against this approach even though my personal opinion is that it would be problematic to locate precisely the location of a morpheme on the grammaticalization road, especially if he posits inference to blur the view even further.

Another of his argument is of structural character. He re-analyses Turkish verb and proposes a slot segmentation. According to this segmentation tense has only two values (past and non-past), and one of them is zero-marked (non-past). Slot that is occupied by *-ecek/acak* is analyzed as belonging to aspect. While it is tempting to admire the structural beauty of such analysis, there is I believe an implicit trap in this argument. The trap is, that the type of category should not be inferred from structural position, but from analysis of meaning. While I have commented on both of the arguments that Jendraschek used for his analysis of *-ecek/acak* as aspect, I want primarily point out the inconsistency of his meaning of category. Jendraschek says (2014: 2):

First of all, we should observe a distinction between futurity markers and future tense markers. If we follow the argumentation in Haspelmath (2010: 671), a given language would then have futurity marking as a (cross-linguistic) comparative concept, but it would not have future tense as a (language-specific) descriptive category. This is comparable to those languages that use verbs (as defined by language-internal criteria) "as" adjectives (in the sense of a comparative concept). We will see in this paper that Turkish and Basque use their aspect categories, and that Iatmul (and English) use language-specific modal markers to express a cross-linguistic category future (tense/time).

It can be convincingly shown, that Haspelmath uses the word cross-linguistic category in negative sense, as that type of category, that is a aprioristically identified (and it has nothing in common with comparative concept). Then he proposes to create comparative concepts defined by external (semantic) criteria only for the purpose of comparison. Jendraschek uses the term cross-linguistic category in this paragraph as category based on comparative concept. The trap is somewhat hidden here. I think that Jendraschek's idea is false when it comes to usefulness of the findings summarized in last sentence. I will cite again Haspelmath (2010: 663):

The fact that typologists compare languages in terms of a separate set of concepts that is not taxonomically superordinate to descriptive linguistic categories means that typology and language-particular analysis are more independent of each other than is often thought.

The fallacy is hidden in correlating two variables of which one is comparative concept (future) and the other is descriptive category (aspect, modal markers). In this sense, after the discussion of

comparative concepts and descriptive categories, I think it is clear, that there is no point to argue what label actually is used for a morpheme in Turkish (as all of the descriptive categories should be just invented labels). The point should be to describe the language well, or to concern oneself with comparison.

I think that Jendraschek in his discussion of Turkish *-ecek/acak* is doing two things at once (and may not be aware of it). The first is language description (using descriptive categories), the second is language comparison (using comparative concepts). These two practices must be held separately.

There is a lot of bias in current literature, probably because the status of the categories as described in Hasplemath (2007, 2010), but already articulated in Lazard (2005) and Dryer (1997), was not clearly settled for a long time. A lot of the currently used grammatical categories were used both in language-specific description and cross-linguistic comparison, and they in a way carry a stain of being used. Well known example from Turkish would be the label aorist, which is used for semantically very distant concepts in Turkish and Old Czech, someone can object and say that I have already argued that descriptive categories are only labels, which we put on our linguistic types. But is it really true, that we will ever see nothing behind labels such as tense, aspect, or modality? In this sense all that has been written about tense, aspect, and modality burdens our vision, and will continue to burden as long as we are going to be the consumers of linguistics literature.

### 3 MEANING ANALYSIS AND LEVEL OF DETAIL

The second objective of this thesis is to discuss the practice of ascribing meaning to form (token of language usage), that is used by linguists in language description. On the background of preceding chapter it is not hard to notice that ascribing meaning, classifying to categories or assigning a value from a category is not trivial undertaking. I will show the problem in a different light, that takes into account that linguistics is a science practiced by people (socially constructed).

#### 3.1 Meaning and categories

Very often one can see the problem with the status of descriptive categories, that I will show on one example of my grammar analysis. If we take the case of Ersen-Rasch (2012: 164) there is not even a word about the morpheme having future reference. The sole relation of *-ecek/acak* with the fact, that it marks futurity, is the label, that is given to it. In this case, I suppose, either intuition, or some theoretical book about tense (Comrie 1985) would work as clue, to what the morpheme really means. We can think then about theoretical books on grammatical categories as somehow detached descriptions of language. I think it is not hard to see that language-specific (descriptive) categories are only descriptive shortcuts for saving place.

I understand the position, that the idea that every grammarian should invent a way how to describe future tense, would not be very welcomed one. It is hard to put in words meanings such as futurity or aspect, not every linguist has to be skilled poet. If there is a theory of TAM categories developed, and some part of it fits the language that is under scrutiny, then good, there is no obstacle for using this theory, and I think it is welcome practice to use it. The problem of course starts when it is successfully used in couple of cases, and it suddenly stops working for the next one. In that case though, the linguist still needs to have his goal in front of him, and that goal is not to force some theory of TAM system on the language he describes, the goal is to describe his language well.

The problem lies in using these pre-identified categories in language description. If we still hold the Saussure's sign of signifié and signifiant, then we divide sign in two parts, that can be vaguely named as - form and meaning. The problem then lies in the inconsistency of description when we combine both form-to-function and function-to-form approaches. Consider the following two illustrations:

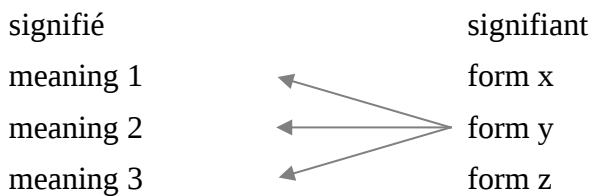


Table 2. Form-to-function approach

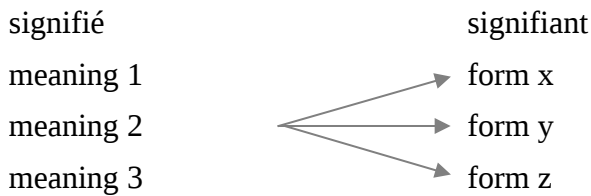


Table 3. Function-to-form approach

Certainly both approaches are part of current practice of language description. But what I believe is a sadly true for current practice of language description is, that both of the directions are inclined to be used for only one of the parts of the structural distinction of center-periphery. The center-periphery distinction can be easily reformulated in terms of frequency (and I think about it in this way). It is a simple truth that there is lack of theory for peripheral phenomena and a lot of theory for central phenomena. Another simple truth is that frequent (central) phenomena are more grammaticalized than scarce ones (peripheral). The result is, generally speaking, that when we have some central phenomenon, it is described in function-to-form approach, when it is peripheral, the preferred approach is form-to-function. In the case of TAM categories the first is being the case.

If we consult again the two tables (2, 3), lets imagine this situation: there is a form y, that is in the "deeper" stage of grammaticalization, and it is phenomenon very frequent. The polysemous meaning (or vague is the other word) of the gram would have us being described by form-to-function approach so we can capture the richness of its meaning (table 2: the relations form y -> meaning 1,2,3). But the practice is the other way around. When grammaticalized phenomenon occurs, the description is coming from application of the function-to-form approach (table 3: meaning 2 -> form y). With this practice of linguistic description I don't believe, that good and complete description can be ensured.

I believe that remnants of the idea of biuniqueness of sign is one of the main factors for not using the form-to-function approach consistently. Every time when "the same" form has different meanings the linguist is presented with a dilemma for how to account it in grammar. He can



subsume the multiple meanings under covering concept, or he can work further with contextual information and analyze the correlation of form and meaning deeper. I will use construction analysis in the next chapter in this sense. I believe that from this position only it can be abstracted to one label if needed.

### 3.1.1 Glossing

The form-to-function and function-form discrepancy is used in the same way in now widespread practice of glossing. Whilst scarce phenomena such as words are glossed precisely according to the context by translation:

- |     |              |      |              |          |              |        |
|-----|--------------|------|--------------|----------|--------------|--------|
| (1) | [+context A] | kız  | [+context B] | kız      | [+context C] | kız    |
|     |              | girl |              | daughter |              | virgin |

Phenomena, that are grammaticalized, are glossed very vaguely, even though their specific meaning is different from the gloss. They are in a certain sense copies of labels from grammars. Even though close interpretation of lexical phenomena is used in glossing, I have not seen in my linguistic experience anything like the following:

- |     |              |                   |              |                     |
|-----|--------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| (2) | [+context D] | Ünal ol-acak.     | [+context E] | Ünal ol-acak.       |
|     |              | Ünal to.be-FUT    |              | Ünal to.be-E.MOD    |
|     |              | 'It will be Ünal' |              | 'That will be Ünal' |

But both types of glossing are based on some conceptualization. The conceptualization of meaning that is at the lexicon-type end of the spectrum might be more concrete than the more abstract conceptualization of meaning at the grammaticalized end, but in principle there is no difference (as there is no drawing line between grammar and lexicon). What I am worried about is, that even though combination of form-to-function and function-form approaches is inevitable, considering current energy resources of linguistics, this practice definitely has influence on our thinking about linguistics.

## 3.2 Level of detail

Now I would like to argue against the practice of relabeling descriptive categories from a different point of view. First, I will contemplate about what is considered as good description. Is it a

100-pages long grammar, where all the paradigms, and a couple rules are stated, or is it 2000-pages long grammar, where everything is analyzed in more detail? And what about two grammars of the same page count, but different content? This is a question that is certainly difficult to answer.

Let's take a look at two grammars that were analyzed in the previous chapter. Lewis (2000) is grammar 320 pages long, Ersen-Rasch (2012) has 350 pages. Let's imagine this hypothetical situation (very similar to reality though), that both grammars treat the topic of future tense in similar way, the only difference is that Ersen-Rasch posits one separate construction involving the future tense morpheme *-ecek/acak* and describes its meaning. Assuming that the construction is described truthfully, her description is somewhat richer. But does that make the description better? If we imagine a grammar 10 000-pages long with very delicate description of language phenomena, is that the grammar we need? Certainly not as a language learner, and only maybe as a linguist. Descriptive linguist could strive for as detailed description as possible, typologist might like a book that is more handy and where can one find his own way around. For this reason I will discard the concept of descriptive goal, that is sometimes used, and instead I propose to talk about level of detail. This concept is nothing difficult to grasp, but I will use it in this specific manner in the rest of the book, mostly discussing the situations when I think it is time to operate on a different level of detail.

If we come back again to the discussion about the history of description of English and Turkish language, we can propose a new way out. There is not much sense in arguing whether the e.g. word *will* is a modal marker or future tense, if the practice is usually done in these two steps: (1) submit a number of examples with the target meaning; (2) argue that the target meaning is somewhat more basic. These steps can be used again for any other label over and over.

I claim that the way out of this wheel is to switch to deeper level of detail. If an analysis would be conducted, that would focus only at the verbal morphology and its semantics, new position would be conquered, from which the description can continue. From this position it can be decided, what is the best label on the previous level of detail. I will attempt to conduct such an analysis, and comment on the consequences for the label of morpheme *-ecek/acak* in chapter 3.

I'd like to think that science (or at least linguistics) makes use of various levels of details, and all of them are of the same value. From the very basic level, when there is place only for a couple of words for description of Turkish language, I would not consider the word agglutinative language vulgar (cf. Haspelmath 2009). On the contrary, the word agglutinative could give someone a very good idea, how a language looks. The problems arise, if we intermingle different levels of detail together. The concept in use is as vague as the level of detail of the work. Agglutination has the same problems as tense, we only see them better, because we work on certain level of detail

much more often.

Another point I want to stress taking level of detail into account is, that strictly speaking there is conventionalized range of detail, which linguists consider scientific. It is one of these blurred lines that are hard draw, but I believe that for example there are no "scientific" grammars which would be shorter than 50 pages, on the other of the scale there is also a line drawn somewhere on the road to the infinitely rich reality.

## 4 CORPUS ANALYSIS OF *-ECEK/ACAK*

### 4.1 Introduction

In this chapter I will unfold my analysis of the Turkish morpheme *-ecek/acak*. It consists of two phases, (i) pilot study (section 4.2.3), and (ii) elicitation of corpus (4.2.4). Both were done in cooperation with native speaker. The pilot study served for basic orientation in the various meanings of the morpheme, and resulted in identification of possible meanings. Second phase comprised of multiple probes into the corpus with a goal of closer examination of constructions, and resulted in isolation of constructions. The analysis has one limitation. All the uses of *-ecek/acak* would comprise parts of morphology that are not easily connectible - nominalized participles, and verbal morphology. Because of this I have chosen to limit the study only to the part of verbal morphology.

The structure of this chapter will be following: In first section I will describe the corpus data and sampling method for my pilot study. After that, I will describe my methodology and cooperation with native speaker. In the main second section I will present the reader with set of constructions that I have identified in my analysis, and in last section I will discuss the findings.

### 4.2 Data and methodology

#### 4.2.1 METU Turkish Corpus

As source of data for my analysis I am going to use METU Turkish Corpus that was developed under the leadership of Bilge Say as first electronic corpus of Turkish language. It is a synchronic (post-1990) corpus of written Turkish sampled of 10 different genres. It consists of 2 millions words, that are compiled from 2000-words long samples from different texts. Maximum of only two samples was allowed from one source (4000 words).

We took an opportunistic approach for representativeness. ... Within the list of publications that the publishers allowed us to use, we did randomly select our sources, taking care in not biasing our samples towards particular authors or genres.

(Say 2004: 5)

I don't have any information, if authors of the corpus accounted for the representativeness of the data in the sense of textual structure (e.g. British National Corpus chooses one third of the text samples from the beginning of the text, one third from the middles, one third from ends). The corpus has only basic tagging for bibliographical information and text structure (paragraphs, highlighted items, etc.), it lacks any other morphological or syntactical labeling. I will not make use of the query

workbench, that was developed by the author's team. Instead I will use freeware program AntConc (version 3.4.3u), developed by Laurence Anthony (available online at <http://www.laurenceanthony.net/software.html>, accessed at 2015-08-11). It allows me better manipulation with the data, and using more complex queries.

#### 4.2.2 Query

The next question that is needed to be posed, before I can start the proper analysis is, how to shape the query (I will use the Kleene's symbol of \* standing for one or more character). The simple query comprising of the two variants (according to the vocal harmony) would be *\*ecek\**, *\*acak\**. The asterisk in front of the morpheme would be the place for the root of the verb, the asterisk behind the morpheme accounts for person/number morphology. This would not bring the wanted results, because of the morphophonology takes place in morphological forms of 1st person (*geleceğim* 'I will come', *geleceğiz* 'we will come'). Together with this adjustment, the next candidates for entry are these four forms: *\*ecek\**, *\*acak\**, *\*eceğ\**, *\*acağ\**. If I will use these forms, then also complex verbal morphology can spring up in the analysis (*gelecektim* 'I would have come'). I won't analyze these constructions, because I think, that they are relatively well described. Consequently, my final choice for the query is comprised of these forms: *\*eceğim\**, *\*eceksin\**, *\*ecek\**, *\*eceğiz\**, *\*eceksiniz\**, *\*ecekler\**, *\*acağım\**, *\*acaksın\**, *\*acak\**, *\*acağız\**, *\*acaksınız\**, *\*acaklar\**.

This query is not perfect though. I will comment here on some of the concordances, that I did not want to include in my analysis, but they have occurred among the hits anyway. The most frequently occurring were nominalized participles either in modifier position (3), (4), or in the nominal position (5):

(3) *gel-ecek*                      *zaman*  
 come-FUT.PTCP                tense  
 'future tense',

(4) *gel-eceğ-im*                      *gün*  
 come-FUT.PTCP-1SG              day  
 'the day I will come'

(5) *gel-ecek-ler*                      *burada*

come-FUT.PTCP        here  
'the ones, who are coming are here'

The second type of rejected forms are the forms that are followed by postpositions:

(6)    *gerek-ecek*                      *kadar*  
be.enough-FUT.PTCP                as much as  
'as much as will be enough'

Another of the problematic issues I will mention, is agreement dropping:

(7)    *gel-ecek-        sonra   gid-ecek-ti*  
come-FUT-        later   go-FUT-PST  
'he would come and later he would go'

There were some other forms in the results, that coincided with one but it they were safely recognized by the native speaker. I have not stumbled upon any prototypical noun (e.g. *bacak* 'leg'), or other non-verbal category.

#### 4.2.3 Pilot study

The analysis was performed in two steps. First step was pilot study. In pilot study the only goal was to chart the terrain of the possible constructions. During this step I have identified some of the meanings, and tried to account for what is possible, frequent, and scarce. As my knowledge of the language is not perfect (and my interpretation of the data has shown to be sometimes misleading), I have analyzed the meaning in cooperation with native Turkish speaker. On the pilot study I have developed slowly a method for identification of some of the meanings, which I used in the second part of my analysis.

The pilot study was performed on the whole corpus. I used the above described form of query, and it resulted in 11727 concordance hits. As the corpus is built from genres, and is ordered according to the genre classification, the only way, how to design representative sample, was to cut through the whole length of the corpus. I decided to aim at the size of cca. 200 occurrences. The final design of the sample, considering the problems with homonymous forms, is the following: I started the analysis at the first occurrence (1), and for getting the number of the next occurrence I

added 50. So I analyzed occurrences in the following order: (1), (51), (101), ... This would be of course only the ideal case, when I would succeed in excluding the nominalized participles, and other rejected forms. In the case, that the form was one from the list of rejected forms, I simply took the next concordance. In the case, that this problem would repeat itself, I would use the last rule iteratively. The beginning sequence of the order of analyzed concordances would be for example the following: (1), (51), (101), (153), (201), (254), ...

In the rest of the study I don't work with the exact meaning of categories of tense, aspect, and modality as defined in theoretical books (e.g. Comrie (1976, 1985), and Palmer (1986)), but I am inspired by them (in the sense of discussion in chapter 2) in order to develop my own identification of constructions including *-ecek/acak*. I took inspiration especially from terms, that cross-linguistically exhibit semantic kinship with future reference: future tense (Comrie 1985: 43-48), prospective aspect (Comrie 1976: 64-65), epistemic modality (Palmer 1986: 24-34), deontic modality (70-76).

After the pilot study, I have revealed, that both aspectotemporal and modal meanings can be found in the corpus. There are examples of future reference marking (future tense), necessity (deontic modality), assumption (epistemic modality), and directive and prohibitive (deontic modality). In many cases it can be argued for more than one notion to be present in the meaning of the utterance:

- (8) *Sinema başlı-yor . Çaresiz film-e bak-acağ-ız .*  
 movie begin-3SG inevitably film-DAT watch-FUT-1PL

'The movie is beginning. Now we have to watch the film.'

Where both necessity (there is no other option), and the future time reference is expressed at once. The meaning would hold if the word *çaresiz* would be taken away (assuming the same context), so it is plausible to say that it is part of the meaning of the morpheme.

In other examples I will show, that also the other way round - morpheme having only future time reference (9), or only modal meaning (10) - was found in the data.

- (9) *Hava yarın kapalı ol-acak .*  
 weather tomorrow cloudy to.be-FUT

'The weather will be cloudy tomorrow.'

- (10) *Palto-m-un büyük cebinde bir şişe kanyak ol-acak.*

of.my.coat    big    in.pocket    one    bottle    cognac    to.be-FUT

'There will be one bottle of cognac in the pocket of my coat.'

#### 4.2.4 Probes

The second part of my study comprises of countless small probes into the corpus. I did not have took notes of exact queries from which I took the data needed. I did not take notes of sources - in which query I have found a certain example. This practice would not be very cost-efficient as I went over hundreds and hundreds of examples. After the charting of the terrain in the pilot study, I have got various ideas how to grasp various constructions. The search proceeded accordingly by pursuing one construction at a time.

#### 4.2.5 Construction Grammar

For representing my findings I will use the theory of Construction Grammar (CxG). Construction grammar draws from the notion of actant developed by Lucien Tesnière, and case grammar developed by Charles Fillmore (1968). The author of the theory is again Charles Fillmore, he laid foundations to his theory in article The mechanisms of 'Construction Grammar' (Fillmore, 1988). CxG framework makes use of the notion of grammatical construction, that works as basic unit of analysis and representation (Fried 2004: 12).

The advantage of grammatical construction is, that it is unit of arbitrary complexity. The linguist then can postulate small units such as prosodic units, and at the same time can work with units relatively complex (sentence, paragraph). Constructions represent abstraction over linguistic tokens, or one can build constructions by connecting already identified constructions. Constructions can be thus organized into networks or hierarchies with shared properties (Fried 2004: 12)

Construction Grammar has very specific representation model, which is probably its most visible trademark. I will not use this model, because it is not the goal of this paper to produce the formalism, but rather demonstrate my results in manner that is accessible by wider range of linguists. I will use the notion of construction as is understood in CxG, and especially, I will make use of Frame Semantics (Fillmore 1982, 1992) in my description of analyzed meanings.

### 4.3 Results

The results of my analysis are constructions, that have been identified during the corpus analysis. The constructions have different levels of specificity, while some of the constructions I



was able to isolate rather well, some of them have only vague structural characteristics. From the corpus findings it is clear that the most frequent use of morpheme *-ecek/acak* is future reference. What I have accomplished is, that I have recognized various uses of the morpheme *-ecek/acak* in constructions, that have also modal meanings. The uses are defined by their semantics, and most of them resemble or copy a speech act. I have given the constructions labels according to the speech acts, that they represent.

The results are presented in the following manner. First I will state couple of examples from the corpus with glossing and translation. After that I will comment on the general structural and semantic characteristics of the constructions.

#### 4.3.1 Assumption

- (11) *Getir on-u ođlu-m . Arka taraf-ta olacak*  
 bring.IMP it-ACC son-POSS.1SG back side-LOC to.be-FUT  
 'Bring it son. It will be in the back.'

Examples (10), and (11) are tokens of the construction, that is most divergent from the future time reference. It expresses an assumption on behalf of the speaker about the location or identity of something or someone (usually classified among epistemic modality). It is often preceded by surprise or remembering. The most salient structural means of this construction is the auxiliary verb *olacak* 'will'.

#### 4.3.2 Role clarification

- (12) *Sen abla-sın, sen götür-ecek-sin.*  
 you older.sister-COP.2SG you carry.away-FUT-2SG  
 'You are the older sister, you carry it away.'
- (13) *Feri haklı. Mustafa sen on-u gözetle-yecek-sin*  
 F. right M. you it-ACC watch.out-FUT-2SG  
 'Feri is right. Mustafa, you watch out for him.'

This construction appears in a context, where speaker clarifies the (social) role of the addressee. In

(12) the role is clearly expressed, and the verb has, rather than future reference, expression of an directive (in the sense of Searle (1983: 166)). In this construction often the word *sen* 'you' appears.

#### 4.3.3 Advice

(14) *o ilk gece indiğiniz tren.istasyonu-na gid-ecek-sin*  
that first night that.you.have.left train.station-DAT go-FUT-2SG  
'You will go to that train station, where you got off that first night.'

(15) *Adam-la buluş-up hükümet sen-i affed-ecek di-yecek-sin .*  
man-INS meet-CVB government 2SG-ACC forgive-FUT say-FUT-2SG  
'You will meet with the man, and say that the government will forgive you.'

This construction is combination of advice and directive. In this construction specification of some procedure (the content of advice) is present as can be seen in both examples (14), (15). Speaker orders the addressee to do something, whilst also giving him advise how.

#### 4.3.4 Order

(16) *Giderayak değil şimdi konuş-acak-sın . Şimdi diy-ecek-sin ne di-yecek-sen .*  
by.the.door not now speak-FUT-2SG now say-FUT-2SG what say-FUT-COND.2SG  
Don't stand by the door, you will speak now. If you will say it, say it now.

(17) *Kapat , ben aç deyince aç-acak-sın .*  
close.IMP 1SG open-IMP when.I.say open-FUT-2SG  
Close it, when I say open you open it.

This construction shares the directive meaning with constructions of 4.3.3 and 4.3.2. The speaker orders the addressee to perform an action. Interesting property of this construction is, that I did not find any example in the corpus, where it would be used as single isolated word in the sentence. Always at least one other word has been found in the presence of this word, but usually more.

#### 4.3.5 Warning

- (18) *Bak , damla-dı örtü-ye ! Yak-acak-sınız orası-nı !*  
look.IMP drip-PST.3SG cover-DAT burn-FUT-2PL that.place-ACC  
Look, it has dripped on the cover! You will burn that place.

- (19) *Bahar'-ı uyandır-acak-sın!*  
B.-ACC wake.up-FUT-2SG  
You will wake up Bahar.

Speaker describes situation, that can happen in future, if he continues in his actions. By this description he warns the addressee, and also urges him to stop. This construction is related to threat, where the hypothetical situation is bad for the addressee, rather than the speaker. The described hypothetical situation is marked by morpheme *-ecek/acak*.

#### 4.3.6 Comforting

- (20) *Az kaldı can-ım , yarın kavuş-acak-sın .*  
a little has.left dear-POSS.1SG tomorrow rejoin-FUT-2SG  
'A little (time) has left my dear, you will rejoin tomorrow.'

- (21) *merak et-me diyordu Aysel sen de mutlu ol-acak-sın*  
worry to.do-NEG said A. 2SG too happy to.be-FUT-2SG

This construction uses future time reference for comforting the addressee. Experiencer (addressee) is comforted by speaker by promise of better future. Among the structural markers of this construction is the often present stimulus (*az kaldı, merak etme*). I have found also other frequently used words in this construction: *mutlaka* 'certainly', *artık hiç* 'from now on never'. This construction is akin to promise.

#### 4.3.7 Promise

- (22) *bir dahaki sefere sizler adına mutlaka incelemeler-de bulun-acağ-ım*

one next time you for definitely investigations-LOC perform-FUT-1SG  
Next time I will definitely investigate for you.

- (23) *artık gid-iyoruz bura-dan, bir daha hiç gel-me-yecek-sin*  
already go-PRES.1PL this.place-ABL once again never come-NEG-FUT-2SG  
'We are going already, you will never ever come here again.'

In promise speaker commits himself to perform action in future. In example number two it must be interpreted in different manner as the speaker promises, that he will not force the addressee to perform action in future.

#### 4.3.8 Plan, intention

- (24) *Oy kullan-acak mı-sınız ?*  
vote use-FUT.3SG Q-2PL  
Will you use your vote? (formal)

- (25) *Grup terapi-ye katıl-acak mı-sın ?*  
group therapy-DAT join-FUT Q-2SG  
Will you join the group therapy? (informal)

- (26) *Konuş-acak mı-sın lan ?*  
speak-FUT Q-2SG mate  
Are you going to speak, mate?

- (27) *Sonra da bir küçük bar gör-düm , bakalım sen beğen-ecek mi-sin ?*  
later and one small bar see-PST.1SG let's.see you like-FUT Q-2SG  
And later I saw a small bar, let's see if you will like it.

These four examples represent a spectrum beginning with planned action (24), (25), intentions (26), future (27), that were sampled from a small probe of queries *\*ecek/\*acak* with the right context of one word *misin/misiniz/mısın/mısınız*. I will also add some observations that are more general. There are small but substantial differences in meaning. Speaker asks addressee about action, that is

planned in the future. The first two examples (planning) can be characterized by bigger time gap between the now and the action. Intentions (this might not be the best term) are questions with much shorter notice. The intention is much often used with verbs expressing everyday actions. No planning or intention can be used with emotion verbs. From formal perspective the planning was more frequent with the question particle in 2nd person plural than second person singular (the example (25) is the only example in singular I found).

## 4.4 Discussion

The findings presented in previous section are result of my attempt to identify and isolate some of the constructions involving the morpheme *-ecek/acak*. On the background of my discussion in 3.1, where I discussed the 'central' and 'peripheral' phenomena, I must admit, that operationalization of meaning analysis is difficult enterprise from couple of reasons. During this study it has become clear, that I won't be able to account for some of the constructions in results, because there was not enough examples in the corpus many times after hitting the search button. I have avoided one construction in my results, and that being the most frequent one. More than a half of the analyzed examples did not seem to have any feature, that would allow me to identify and propose a construction for it, that being the simple future time reference. In a sense though, my results did cut out from the big pie a good slice of constructions, and the rest can be dealt with in next study.

One of the other reasons, why I did not develop any solid design of the analysis is, that there is a noticeable connection between some of the constructions, that I have isolated at last. One connected group 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, and 4.3.5 are notions, that have directive meaning (at least partially) as their common denominator. They differ in the measure of the direction being pronounced (the weakest would most likely be 4.3.3, 4.3.5), but they may share some common semantics, and might be a good candidate for connection of these constructions in a hierarchy. All three of them would be classified into the deontic modality.

Another group, viewed from a different perspective, are constructions 4.3.5 and 4.3.6. Both of the constructions most likely started its existence as the use of future time reference for showing addressee a hypothetical situation or event. It is either something, that is unwanted by the speaker 4.3.5, or wanted by the addressee 4.3.6.

The construction 4.3.7 has the label commissive in theoretical works (Palmer 1986: 72). Together with the construction 4.3.8, they are in expression close to future time reference, and the examples of (24)-(27) can be posed on a scale, where modal (commissive) meanings would be at

one end, and future time reference would be at the other.

The construction 4.3.1 was already identified by grammarians (cf. Lewis 2000: 111). This probably relates to the fact, that it is the most easily separable construction in terms of its semantics.

Gerd Jendraschek (2014) argues, that Turkish morpheme *-ecek/acak* has prospective meaning. In this study I didn't succeed to isolate any construction (by my searching criteria described in section 4.2.2., that would have prospective meaning. Although there certainly are constructions that are prospective in Turkish, e.g. *gitmek üzere* 'about to go', there is no such meaning associated with *-ecek/acak*. Prospective meaning can be probably also found in some of the *-ecek/acak* participles. For example the well-known Latin saying "morituri te salutant" is translated in Turkish as *ölecek olan seni selamlar* 'those who are about to die salute you'.

What I want point out by my analysis is, that there is no obstacle for a theoretician to argue one way or the other (using grammaticalization, cognitive factors), that one of the meanings is more 'basic'. Linguists cannot use grammaticalization (as does Jendraschek (2014)) to show, that aspect is more 'basic' meaning on the grammaticalization scale, and that ipso facto is the reason why it has to be in the described language. The 'basic' in this moment would get to be equated with 'deep structure'. It is a trivial truth, that in the semantic area of TAM categories it will never be difficult to invent some formalism, by which linguist can force the semantics by force. But this should not be the goal.

This study is preliminary in many ways. It is a time consuming research in a field, that is hard to grasp (especially when the cooperation with native speaker is necessary). I believe though, that this is the first step in a new direction with a goal to find new, more accurate, and more detailed description in the Turkish verb system.

The analysis can be perfected, if more detailed and more systematic approach is adopted. I am aware, that the set of constructions, that I have proposed is not in any way exhaustive. There were other constructions that awaited my attention, such as verbs in passive form. They seem to have a specific meaning of planned actions, and might be connected to newspaper discourse. These need to wait for another occasion. One decision that I regret is, that I resigned to keep track of my data and did not number the samples, after the pilot study. However the results would not be comparable (I have performed many small probes), I would have better knowledge about the frequency of particular constructions.

The results of detailed study could be reformulated in the metalanguage of Construction Grammar (Attribute-Value Matrices) and Frame Semantics. This formulation would allow posing hierarchies and networks of the isolated constructions, which would be rich source for language theory.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

I believe that I have shown on my analysis of *-ecek/acak*, that verbal morphemes deserve more attention in comparison to the amount that has been paid to it in grammars. Verbal morphemes are generally in the center of language system, yet the descriptions can be very short or even absent.

In chapter 2 I have replicated the discussion about classification of verbal morphemes expressing futurity into TAM categories for English and Turkish language. It seems, that both languages share the same problems, and the discussion of "what is what" is not over, even though both languages are among the best described languages in the world. As part of the discussion I have analyzed what actually the labels of TAM system can mean, and how are the labels applied in various grammars used by linguists. I have chosen 3 grammars that use the label "future tense" for the morpheme *-ecek/acak*, and showed how the description varies. I have taken up the discussion about Turkish TAM categories with comment on the article of Jendraschek (2014), where he argues for label "aspect" to be used for the morpheme *-ecek/acak*. I have shown, that his argumentation might be part of either linguistic description or linguistic typology, while not sure which one of them it is. I have ended the chapter by arguing against such practice of relabeling by theory, and I draw a sharp line between descriptive categories and comparative concepts.

Considering how much space was dedicated to the description of morpheme *-ecek/acak* in the analyzed grammars of Turkish, I proceeded to show the problem of analysis of meaning as is practiced in grammaticography. I commented on the status of theoretical books, and their use in analysis of meaning of linguistic structures, that are part of the language center (in other words grammaticalized, and frequent). These happen to be also morphemes, of which one of them is the morpheme *-ecek/acak*. I have shown the difference between onomasiological and semasiological approach, and I discussed usage of these two practices in grammaticography and glossing.

In section 3.2 I argued against the relabeling from a different perspective. This section is very general in nature, and it deals with the level of detail that is adopted in linguistic studies. I have argued, that only from position, when linguist performs analysis on deeper level of detail, it is plausible to relabel a descriptive category. By taking this view into account I designed my corpus study presented in chapter 4.

Chapter 4 sees an attempt for a corpus study of morpheme *-ecek/acak*. The data source for the study is METU Turkish corpus, that has 2 millions words. I described my method, starting by calibrating the query form, structure of the analysis - pilot study and probes - and ending with a

description of my theoretical grammatical framework of Construction Grammar and Frame Semantics.

My results are eight identified and exemplified constructions. I described the observed properties on the semantical and formal level. The names I have used for the constructions source from speech acts as the constructions closely resemble to them in function. In discussion of findings I have postulated some of the plausible network relations between the constructions, and in some cases I tried to apply the classical theoretical terms for them. I admitted some of the problematic parts of the study - its difficult operationalization and insufficient data in the corpus. What I have tried to accomplish was a fresh look at the semantics of morpheme *-ecek/acak*, and I think this was successful. I did not hold on to the terms from theoretical books when eliciting the data, although I was definitely inspired by the previous studies in this semantic area.

In connection with discussion of my data (section 4.4), I propose the options for future research. First step must be taken in the direction of the level of detail. As I stated already, my analysis is only preliminary, and it served for a goal of identification of a set of constructions. The next study can elaborate on these findings, and propose richer description. This step is advisable, because I have analyzed only a subset of constructions, that seemed to be identifiable.

Another way to go would be frequency studies, to give some basic orientation in the salience of particular constructions. In this case also richer description is needed for facilitation of such study. The last direction I propose is formalization by Construction Grammar and Frame Semantics. This would be useful in positing network hierarchies of related constructions, that could bring useful incentive to linguistic theory.



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## 7 APPENDIX: LIST OF STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
ABL	ablative
ACC	accusative
COP	copula
COND	conditional
CVB	converb
E.MOD	epistemic modality
FUT	future
LOC	locative
IMP	imperative
INS	instrumental
NEG	negative
PL	plural
POSS	possessive
PRES	present
PST	past
PTCP	participle
SG	singular