

Word Order Positions of the Finno–Ugric Essive Case Forms

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Finno–Ugric languages are known to have rich case systems, one of which is the essive form, which carries the meaning of a temporary state of being, equivalent to the English “as a” This paper is concerned with the interaction between the word order positions and the semantics of the Finno–Ugric (Finnish and Hungarian) essive case forms. It is argued specifically that there are functional/cognitive rules determining the order of the essive case positions. We clarify further the preferred position(s) of the essive case in Finnish and in Hungarian, based on our analysis of corpus data.

This paper claims that the essive form is related to the syntax of Finno–Ugric in discourse-pragmatics. The different distributions of the essive case positions will be explained by semantic maps with semantic factors and word order positions.

Keywords: word order, case, Finnish, Hungarian, semantic map

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1. Introduction^{*}

Finno–Ugric languages are famous for their rich case systems. For example, Hungarian has 18 basic cases and Finnish has 15 (Csepregi 1991:119-142, White 1997: 63-96). This paper examines one of the Finno–Ugric cases, the essive, in Finnish and in Hungarian.

The cases in Finno–Ugric are principally classified into three types: grammatical, locative, and adverbial cases, as in (1), and the essive case is one of the adverbial cases.

- (1) Three groups of cases in Finno–Ugric languages:
- a. Grammatical: nominative, accusative, dative, etc.
 - b. Locative: adessive, inessive, superessive, etc.
 - c. Adverbial: instrumental, abessive, translative, essive, etc.

When we consider the cases in (1) on a functional basis, it is clear that there is some diversity in their number. According to Iggesen (2005), some languages (e.g., Chinese, Thai) have no cases, while others (e.g., Finnish, Hungarian) have more than 10.¹

* Thanks to members of the Department of Cross-Cultural Education, Tohoku University Graduate school of International Cultural Studies, and members of the Linguistic Ambiguity Project, ILCAA, Tokyo University for Foreign Studies This work is supported by a grant-in-aid from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). Abbreviations; ACC “accusative case,” COND “conditional mood,” DAT “dative case,” ELA “elative case,” ESS “essive case,” GEN “genitive element,” INF “infinitive,” INST “instrumental case,” LOC “locative case,” PART “partitive case,” PASS “passive,” PAST “past tense,” SG “singular,” PL “plural,” 1, 2, 3: “1st, 2nd, and 3rd person,” respectively.

1 Iggesen (2005) reported that there are 24 languages with more than 10 cases in WALS (Haspelmath et al. (eds.) 2005). Nose (2006) examined the 24 languages of Iggesen’s list and described which kinds of cases they have.

When several studies analyze the so-called “cases,” these studies are based on certain theoretical considerations (cf. Blake 1994). Regarding grammatical cases, syntactic construction can be used or attention is paid to case markings of agent, patient, and experiencer. In locative cases, cognitive linguists tend to create somewhat cognitive schema; the locative cases basically express relations of specific locations and their extensions. In adverbial cases, they are not related to the syntax of the sentence, but are rather classified as adjuncts. Moreover, adverbial cases express abstract relations or meaning, and thus, it is hard to consider their schemata of cases, such as essive and translative. Such adverbial case forms are not types of clitics, but their behaviors are ambiguous in phonological, morphological, and syntactic terms. Finno-Ugric languages do not have an obvious clitic form, but the adverbial case forms like the essive case are worth analyzing to consider the definition of “words” and “clitics.”

This paper will contrast the Finnish essive against the Hungarian. Finnish and Hungarian have the same case function of the essive, but their usage and semantic characteristics are not the same. Thus, this study will clarify the common and diverse points of each essive case and considers showing their formal and semantic behaviors in cognitive terms. Further, this study will try to create semantic maps of the Finno-Ugric essive case through their contrastive data. For this purpose, this study will investigate the essive usage of written texts in Finnish and Hungarian.

2. Essive case and adverbial cases in Finnish and Hungarian: a descriptive study

First, the essive cases are formally different from each other in Finnish and Hungarian. The essive forms are *-na/ -nä* in Finnish (*-na/ -nä* are variants of vowel harmony) and, *-ként* in Hungarian. For instance, in (2), each language can express a similar situation (Csepregi 1998:30, Haspelmath & Buchholz 1998:321-324).

(2) Finnish:

- a. Hän teki työ-tä *opettaja-na* Budapesti-ssa.
 he did job teacher-ESS Budapest-in

Hungarian:

- b. Budapest-en *tanár-ként* dolgoz-ott.
 Budapest-in teacher-ESSI he worked
 “He worked *as a teacher* in Budapest”

As pointed out, both Finnish and Hungarian have morphologically rich case systems, and in such systems, the essive case is neither a grammatical nor a locative case, but one of the adverbial cases. The essive case is peculiar to Finno-Ugric, and it is observed in Finnish, Estonian, Saami, and Hungarian.²

In descriptive grammar of Finnish and Hungarian, the essive case is defined to denote a manner, or state or temporal capacity (Rounds 2001:116, White 1997: 90-92). In (2), the sentences in both languages denote that the subject is a teacher, but this is expressed with the essive case, his situation being rather temporal. Usually, the essive case form can take both human and non-human nouns, and the essive forms denote a property or role of the person/object (in (2), it indicates a role of teacher). This “property-role” is the basic meaning of the essive case, and its semantic characteristics are common to both Finnish and Hungarian.

The basic usage of the essive in Finnish and Hungarian is semantically almost the same, although they differ with regard to certain expressions. First, meanings of state and time are characteristic of Finnish. Unlike in Hungarian, adjectives and participle forms can take an essive case affix in Finnish. When adjectives and participles appear with the essive case, the resulting forms express a certain state, e.g., *musta* “black” > *musta-na* “in black.” In (3), the essive case appears with a passive participle, and it denotes state, which means “compared.”

(3) Finnish:

² There are some languages other than Finno-Ugric that have the essive case. For instance, Abkhaz has only two cases, the unmarked and the predicative; the function of the predicative case is equivalent to the essive functions. (Bernard Comrie p.c.)

Persian kieli suome-en *verra-ttu-na* (Suomi: 22)
 Persian language Finnish-GEN compared-ESS
 “Compared with Finnish, Persian is”

Next, the essive case in Finnish is frequently used with certain words related to time, such as “summer,” “Monday,” “2006.” In this case, the essive form has a meaning of time. In (4), the essive case form is used with “*sunnuntai*” (Sunday) and this means “on Sunday.”

(4) Finnish:

Sunnuntai-na meni-si-mme retke-lle. (Suomi: 41)
 Sunday-ESS goCOND-1PL picnic-LOC
 “We would go to a picnic on Sunday”

The following manner and lexical meanings are observed only in Hungarian. First, the essive case in Hungarian can express a meaning of manner, especially a figurative usage. In (5), the essive form *rabszolga-ként* expresses the manner of the person, “myself,” but this manner is figurative, not relating to a real situation. In this case, “I, myself” is not a slave, but people treat “me” as if “I am a slave.”

(5) Hungarian:

Rabszolga-ként bán-nak vel-em.
 slave-ESS treat-3PL INST-my
 “They treat me like a slave” (Rounds 2001: 116)

Second, there are several kinds of lexical usage in Hungarian. The lexical usage is interpreted as a fixed form, for instance, *egyéb-ként* “otherwise” and *fő-ként* “mainly.” In present-day Hungarian, they are not separable (Nose 2003).³

These lexical forms are not simply combinations of the noun and the essive case, but are one single form. Moreover, they function as conjunctions or adverbials on constructing discourse (Nose 2003, Ramat & Ricca 1994). In (6), the lexicalized essive form *második-ként* expresses the adverbial meaning, “secondly.”

(6) Hungarian:

Új-Zéland után a világ-on *második-ként* (Suomi: 26)
 New Zealand following the world-LOC second-ESS
 “... is secondly in the world following New Zealand”

In this section, the descriptive study of each language shows that there is a basic meaning common to both Finnish and Hungarian, but there are different semantic distributions of the essive usage in the two languages. The purpose of this study is to make two points, one to clarify the semantic characteristics of each language, and the other to show the semantic relations of those meanings. This study takes a semantic map approach. A semantic map is a tool for describing functions cross-linguistically (cf. Haspelmath 2003), and this study tries to create a semantic map of the essive functions. The semantic map of the essive makes the semantic ambiguities of the essive in Finnish and Hungarian clearer.

3. Text-based investigations of the Essive

Adverbial cases are found less frequently in normal usage than are other grammatical and locative cases, and the data from the descriptive grammar in both Finnish and Hungarian is not enough to analyze essive behaviors. Therefore this study examined several texts in each language (cf. Barlow & Kemmer 1994).

Through text-based investigation of the essive, this study will focus on both syntactic and semantic features. First, relating to syntax, it is desirable to find the preferred position(s) of the essive. The essive

³ The essive case forms like *egyéb-ként* and *fő-ként* are so lexicalized and can be found in dictionaries. Nose (2003) argued and claimed that such lexical forms of the essive are not analyzable as a combination of *egyéb* and *ként*.

case is one of the adverbial cases, and that is why it is classified as an adjunct. Adjuncts may appear anywhere in a sentence; nevertheless this study examined the word order positions relating to the essive form in order to identify certain functional/information structural pattern(s). Second, the semantic approach is to create a semantic map of the essive case in terms of essive functions. There are several meanings and usage of the essive in both Finnish and Hungarian, and it is a purpose of this study to visualize the functions correctly. Moreover, by examining the examples from several texts, this study will investigate the meaning that is frequent or infrequent in each language. Thus, we can enter frequency data into the semantic map.

3.1. Text-based analysis

In this study, several texts in both languages were examined and the number of essive case forms were counted. The following (7) is the material examined. The materials used in this study include newspapers, literature, and academic texts. In Finnish, we acquired 708 examples of the essive from four texts, whereas in Hungarian, we collected 429 essives from fourteen texts. This means that the essive is more frequent in Finnish than in Hungarian, at least in terms of the number per text.

(7) Materials and number of the essive observed:

Finnish: 708 essive forms

- a. University newspaper (98) *Aviisi* (Tampereen ylioppilaslehti) (November 7, 2001)
- b. City newspaper (82) *Tamperelainen* (March 15, 2000)
- c. Magazine (207) *Filmilehti* 1999 #2
- d. Academic (321) Geber Erik (ed.) 1996. *Suomen kielen kontrastiivinen opas*. Helsinki: Opetushallitus

Hungarian: 429 essive forms

- A: 4 literary texts (73)
 - e. Janikovszky, Éva. 2001. *De szép ez az élet!* Budapest: Móra Könyvkiadó (13)
 - f. Balogh Béni. 1999. *Magyar régek és mondák*, Budapest: Ciceró Kiadó (31)
 - g. Madách, Imre. *Az ember tragédiája*, 1859-1860 (17)
 - h. Kalász László, Nagy jövő mögöttünk. 1998. Miskolc: Felsőmagyarország kiadó (12)
- B: 3 non-fiction & discourses (130)
 - i. Laczkó & Radnai. 1993. *Levelek Japánból* diary-style non-fiction (117)
 - j. Gálík Péter. 1994. *Diák Murphy*. Budapest: Lilliput (5)
 - k. Pirvácsi István. 1997. *Vak Béla vak volt: diákok válogatott aranyköpései*. Budapest: Palatinus Könyvek (8)
- C: 5 newspapers & magazines (185)
 - l. *Déli Hírlap*: December 22, 1999 (30)
 - m. *Déli Hírlap*: December 4, 1998 (29)
 - n. *Az Utazó*: 1999. Május (18)
 - o. *Az Utazó*: 2000. Július-Augusztus (14)
 - p. Major Arvaszka. 1998. *Suomi: Természetesen-travel guide* (94)
- D: 2 academic texts (41)
 - q. Csepregi, Márta (ed.). 1998. *Finnugor kalauz*. Budapest: Panoráma: 9-46 (34)
 - r. Szili, Katalin. 1999. *Valahol a passívum és a mediálisok között...* *Magyar Nyelvőr* 123: 350-357 (7)

The task of finding the essive forms in the Finnish and Hungarian texts was carried out by hand-to-hand searching. The essive form *-na/-nä* in Finnish is so simple that it is not possible for a computer to separate the essive form from other forms, like *tari-na* “tale,” or *ai-na* “always.” Then in Hungarian, the essive form *-ként* is partly the same form of distributive case *-nként* (Csepregi 1991: 140); the forms *-ként* and *-nként* take the same form *-ként*. Therefore, in order to collect the essive forms accurately, we needed to identify the essive case forms from other similar ones by individually reading through the texts.

3.2. Possible Sentence Positions

Further investigation is required to examine the position of the essive form that appears in word order. This study set out five positions in which the essive form can appear. The following five essive positions from EP1 to EP5 are shown in (8).

(8) 4 + 1 possible sentence positions where the essive form appears:

Initial ... Second ... Pre-verbal VERB ... Post-verbal ...
 EP1 EP2 EP3 EP4
 Inside NP clause: EP5

First, if the essive form is observed not in a particular position within a sentence, but inside a noun phrase clause, it is classified as EP5. Second, in a sentence, the pre-verbal position is EP3, and the post-verbal position is EP4. In addition, the sentence initial position is EP1 and finally, the remaining position is EP2, sentence second position when it is neither the sentence initial nor the pre-verbal position.

3.3. Results

In the text-based investigations, the following semantic characteristics of the essive forms have been observed (ESS(ive) meanings in Table 1). The basic meaning of the essive, in both Finnish and Hungarian, is a “property-role.” In addition, meanings of state, manner, and other lexical place and time are observed. The meanings with the essive case marking is specified in gray (see also Nose 2003).

Table 1. Semantic results: Essive meanings

ESS meanings	Finnish	Hungarian	English
Property-Role	opettaja-na	tanár-ként	as a teacher
Property-Manner	perinteise-sti (adv)	hagyomány-ként	traditionally (adv)
State	kuuma-na	forró-n (adv)	hot (adv)
Figurative	niin kuin lintu	madár-ként	like a bird
Adverbial (Lex)	pääasiallise-sti	fő-ként	mainly (adv)
	vapaaehtoise-sti	ön-ként	voluntarily (adv)
Place (Lex)	Taro-n luo-na	Taro-nál	at Taro’s place
Time	viime kesä-nä	múlt nyár-on	last summer (adv)
Conjunctive (Lex)	muuten	egyéb-ként	otherwise (adv)
	muussa tapauksessa	más-ként	differently (adv)

(Lex: Lexicalized form, Adv: adverbial)

From Table 1, it can be seen that the semantic distributions differ between Finnish and Hungarian. Finnish has the essive functions of state, place, and time meanings, whereas Hungarian has the functions of property-manner, figurative adverbial and conjunctive. English, meanwhile, has no essive case, and the equivalent forms are expressed with *as*, *like*, or the adverbial suffix *-ly*. The essive case is one of the adverbial cases, and there are several lexical-adverbial meanings in both Finnish and Hungarian. Place and time meanings in Finnish are adverbial, because the essive form *-na/ -nä* is originally derived from

place meaning *kauka-na* “further,” and *koto-na* “at home,” and they became lexicalized. That is, the essive lexical meanings indicate different distributions from each other.

Tables 2 and 3 summarize the quantitative results of the text-based surveys in Finnish and Hungarian. As is clear from Table 1, their semantic distributions are different from each other. In Table 2, there are “property” (human), “property” (non-human), “state,” “time,” and “lexical” (place) meanings in Finnish. In Table 3, on the other hand, Hungarian has “question,” “property” (human), “property” (non-human), “figurative,” and “lexical” (adverbial and conjunctive) meanings. It is arguable that question meaning is in the table.⁴ Some frequent usage of both languages in Tables 2 and 3 are shown in bold.

The Hungarian question form *mi-ként* functions as a question marker, meaning “how?” or “in what way?” This form consists of *mi*, “what,” and *-ként*, and it is frequently used, as shown in Table 3. Also in Finnish, there is the same question marker *mi-nä*, a combination of *mi*, “what,” and *-nä*, but there is no occurrence of these in the texts. The Hungarian essive question marker *mi-ként* occurs frequently and has a special usage, so this study counted the question marker as a discrete function of the Hungarian essive.

Table 2. Text-result and semantic distributions in Finnish

	Property human	Property non-human	State	Time	Lexical	Total
Tamperelainen	4	12	10	45	11	92
Suomen kieli	9	151	81	38	42	321
Filmlehti	49	27	41	44	46	207
Aviisi	9	19	16	45	9	98
Total	71	209	148	172	108	708
%	10%	30%	21%	24%	15%	100%

Table 3. Text result and semantic distributions in Hungarian

	Question	Property human	Property non-human	Figurative	Lexical	Total
Group A: Literature	22	6	11	19	15	73
Group B: Non-fiction, discourse	3	14	32	2	79	130
Group C: Newspaper, Magazine	30	31	66	2	56	185
Group D: Academic	7	2	29	0	3	41
Total	62	53	138	23	153	429
%	14%	12%	32%	6%	36%	100%

Next, I will show the results of essive positions (EP1–EP5) in word order. In (8), this study has set 5 essive positions in both Finnish and Hungarian and examined all sentences with the essive case. The basic word order in Finnish is SVO and quite rigid, whereas the order in Hungarian is usually SOV and rather free. Both languages are liable to change their word order according to functional conditions (topic and comment, focus). Below are some examples of the essive positions EP1 to EP5.

EP1

(9) Finnish:

Yhteislaavilaise-na aikana kantaslaavi-in tuli germaanisi-a laino-ja,
 common Slavic-ESS time-ESS base Slavic-LOC come-3SG.PAST Germanic-PART loans-PART
 (Time) At the common Slavic time, Germanic borrowings became base Slavic (7d).

⁴ Some Hungarian speakers pointed out that the essive form *mi-ként* is analyzable as “*m*” and *-ként*, but Hungarians no longer consider this as a morphological combination.

(10) Hungarian:

miként Maci Laci szokta dézsmál-ni a turist-ák szendvics-ei-t.
 what-ESS ML used to-3SG.PAST pilfer-INF the tourist-PL sandwich-PL-ACC
 (Question) How ML used to pilfer the tourists' sandwiches (7n).

EP1 is the sentence initial position. In Finnish (9), the essive form has a time meaning, and this time expression *yhteislaavilaise-na aika-na* introduces the following parts of the sentence. In Hungarian (10), the question marker *miként* comes to the sentence initial position. It is natural that a question marker is at the initial position.

EP2

(11) Finnish:

Arabia-lle *ongelma-na* ei ole-kaan näid-en äänteid-en
 Arabic-LOC problem-ESS not be-either those-GEN sound-GEN
 tuottaminen vaan niid-en välis-en ero-n kuuleminen
 production but these-GEN distance-GEN difference-GEN hearing.

(Property-role) To Arabic people, as a problem, it is not these sound productions, but hearing these differences between them (7d).

(12) Hungarian:

Az repülőút *egyébként*, keresztül Szibéri-án,
 the flight route other-ESS through Siberia-LOC
 nem bizonyul-t túl pihentető-nek.
 not prove-3SG.PAST too restful-DAT

(Lexical: conjunctive) Otherwise, the flight route through Siberia does not prove to be restful (7n).

Next EP2, second position in the sentence. In Finnish (11), the essive form *ongelma-na* is between topic *Arabialle* and focus (negation from *ei*). In this case, the form is functioning as contrastive. Especially in Hungarian (12), the essive form *egyéb-ként* is a conjunction, and it indicates “otherwise,” a meaning contrastive to the previous discourse.

EP3

(13) Finnish:

Englanni-n osuus sivitys- ja lainanantajakiele-na
 English-GEN share education and lender language-ESS
 alko-i kasva-a 1800-lla
 begin-3SG.PAST increase-INF 1800-LOC

(Property) The share of English began increasing in the 1800s as an education and lender's language (7d).

(14) Hungarian:

A híg rizpálinká-t, a szaké-t *aperitif-ként* kínál-ják,
 the thin rice vodka-ACC the sake-ACC aperitif-ESS offer-3PL
 (Style) As an aperitif, they offer thin rice vodka, sake (7i).

EP3 is a pre-verbal position, and this position is considered as a focus position in both Finnish and Hungarian. In Finnish (13), the essive form has a property meaning and it explains the roles of the English language. In Hungarian (14), EP3 is the focus position, and the essive form *aperitif-ként* describes the role of sake.

EP4

(15) Finnish:

Arabian ja turkin rinna-lla persiaa pide-tään
 Arabic-GEN and Turkish-GEN side-LOC Persian regard-PASS
yhte-nä islamin pääkiele-nä
 only-ESS Islamic-GEN main language-ESS

(Property: style) Besides Arabic and Turkish sides, Persian is regarded as the only Islamic main language (7d).

(16) Hungarian:

az én csodálatos japán névjegy-em-et csatol-om *tárgyi bizonyíték-ként*
 the my wonderful Japanese card-my-ACC append-1SG material proof-PL-ESS
 (Manner) I append my wonderful Japanese card as a material proof (7i).

EP4 is the post-verbal position. At this position, some additional information will be introduced, but sometimes an important item, as well (Mithun 1987). In Finnish (15), the essive form *pääkiele-nä* is in the post-verbal position, but this information is a rather important item. The basic word order in Finnish is SVO, and this post-verbal position has a certain functional value in the sentence. In Hungarian (16), the essive form *tárgyi bizonyíték-ként* is more or less additional information. In Hungarian, the pre-verbal position EP3 is the focus position and important information is located there, while the post-verbal position is for additional information.

EP5

(17) Finnish:

nominatiivi ja akkusatiivi subjektin ja objektin *tunnusmerkkei-nä*
 nominative and accusative subject-GEN and object-GEN symbol mark-PL-ESS
 (Property: style) Nominative and accusative, as symbol marks of the subject and the object (7d).

(18) Hungarian:

menny-ként fényesedő erő
 heaven-ESS shining force
 (Figurative) Shining force like heaven (7h).

Finally EP5 is not a sentence position. Many essive forms appear in a noun phrase, and we cannot identify the essive positions in such constructions. This study classified them as EP5. In Finnish (17), the essive form *tunnusmerkkei-nä* has a property meaning and explains the usage of nominative and accusative. In Hungarian (18), the essive form *menny-ként* has a figurative meaning, and this example was observed in the verse.

To summarize the results of the essive positions, we will show them in Tables 4 and 5. Table 4 lays out the Finnish result, and it is remarkable that EP4 is the most frequent position. The Finnish essive forms are adjuncts and do not appear before the verb. It is considered that Finnish has a relatively rigid SVO word order, and the essive forms come after the verb, that is, EP4 is frequent. Besides EP4, there are some frequency in EP1 and EP3.

Table 4. Essive positions in Finnish

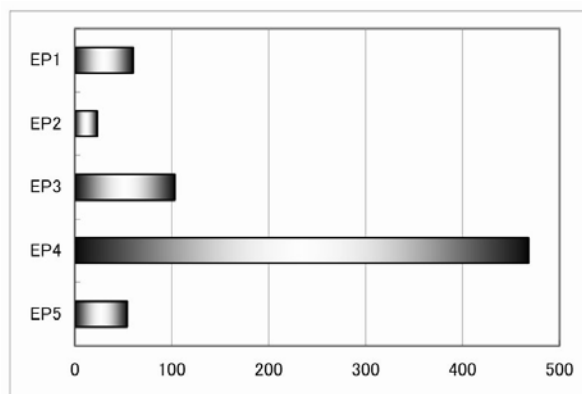
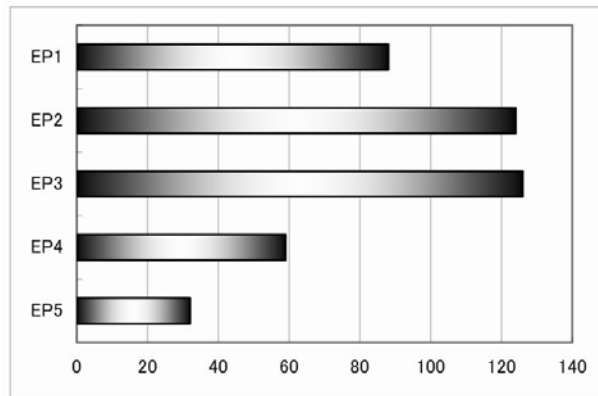


Table 5 is the Hungarian result. In contrast to Finnish, the essive forms in Hungarian appear before the verb, EP1, EP2, and EP3. Hungarian has a relatively free word order, and the essive forms can be put into any position. Freedom of word order is based on topic-comment relations. Adjuncts like essive forms can move freely in terms of discourse-pragmatic functions. In Hungarian, the EP3 position is the focus position and is the most frequent. This means that the essive forms contain, in one sense, important information of a discourse.

Table 5. Essive positions in Hungarian



4. Discussion

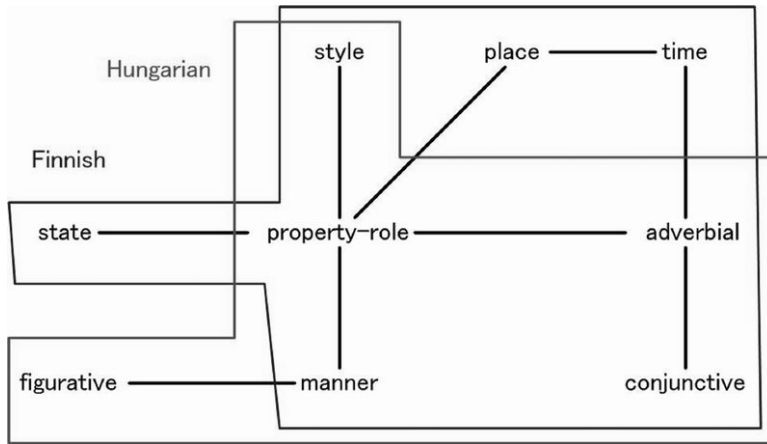
In this section, this paper discusses two points about essive usage. First, this study examined the usage of essive forms and essive positions in Finnish and Hungarian. Here, we combine them into one table and analyze them in semantic and syntactic terms. Second, this study creates a semantic map of the essive from the results of the text-based investigations. This semantic map includes frequency data and essive positions.

When we observe functions, frequency, and word order positions of the essive, their behaviors in Finnish and Hungarian differ. As is clear from Table 4, in Finnish, the EP4 position is the most frequent, and at this position, property and state meanings are notably observed. The EP3 position also has a property meaning, whereas the time meaning is overwhelming at the EP1 position. In Hungarian, the pre-verbal position EP3 is the most frequent, and we found property and style meanings in this position. The EP2 position also is frequent, but at this position, almost all usages are conjunctive or adverbial-lexical. Finally, with regard to the EP1 position in Hungarian, there is the question marker *mi-ként*.

Next, this study tries to integrate functions, frequency, and word order positions into the semantic maps of the essive. By creating such semantic maps, we can gain an overview of the contrastive results, several functions and frequencies of the essive forms. First, we create a standard “functional” semantic map of the essive functions. Then we add frequency and word order position data onto the maps.

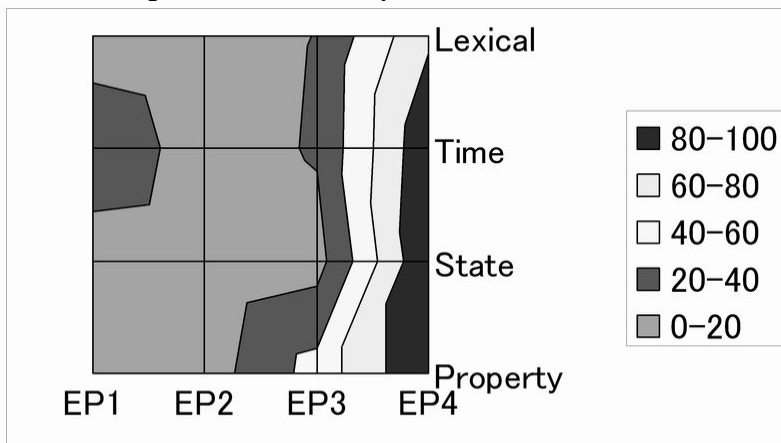
As a first step, this study has created a functional semantic map of the essive, as in Figure 1. The basic “property-role” meaning is central, as are several other functions around the property meaning. In Finnish, it is remarkable that the essive covers state, place, and time meanings. It also occupies manner, adverbial, and conjunctive meanings, but this means that Finnish can express such meanings, and they are not always frequent. Next, the essive meaning in Hungarian is basically a “property-role,” and the functions go further in one direction, from manner to figurative. Another direction is to the adverbial and conjunctive meanings. But the Hungarian essive form has no state, place, or time meaning.

Figure 1: Semantic map; functional mapping in Finnish and Hungarian

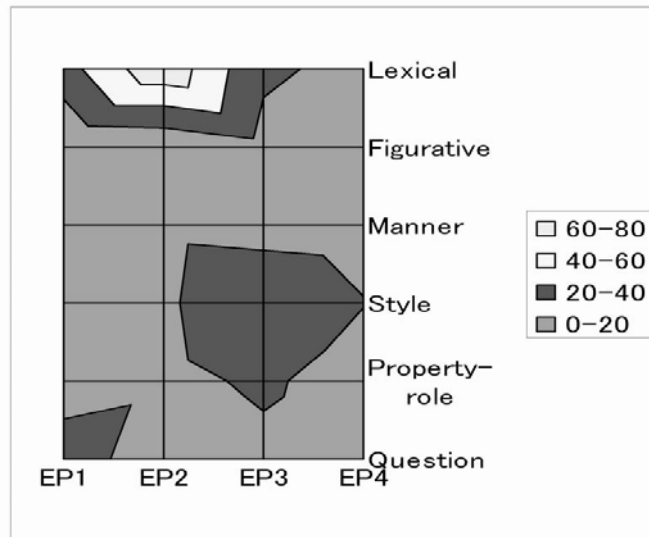


The “semantic maps” below are idiosyncratic, very different from the semantic map in Figure 1. Word order positions and frequency data are shown in Figures 2 (Finnish) and 3 (Hungarian). In both Figures 2 and 3, the vertical dimension indicates each function, and the horizontal, word order positions. In the vertical dimension, lexical and adverbial functions are nearer to the top of the map, and basic property function at the bottom. In horizontal dimension, EP5 is not included in the maps, because EP5 position is inside a noun phrase and is not related to any word order position.

The revised semantic map of the Finnish *essive* is shown in Figure 2. At EP4, all functions are observed. It is remarkable that the time meaning appears at EP1 and the property meaning shows some frequency at EP3. From this observation, the *essive* forms in Finnish usually appear at the post-verbal position, and time usage can appear at the sentence initial position.

Figure 2: Semantic map of the *essive*, Finnish

Next, the Hungarian revised map is in Figure 3. Functional distributions in Hungarian are more widely spaced in this map. The question marker *mi-ként* occupies EP1. Standard usage, property, and style meanings appear at EP3, at the pre-verbal focus position. Lexical-adverbial usage, including conjunctives like *egyéb-ként* is the most frequent and their favorite position is EP2.

Figure 3: Semantic map of the essive, Hungarian

This study has shown the differences of the essive usage and their most frequent word order positions. By creating several semantic maps, it has been made apparent that the essive functions and the preferred word order positions are different from each other in Finnish and Hungarian.

5. Conclusion

To summarize this study, Finnish and Hungarian have the same or similar case marking, the essive case, but their semantic and syntactic characteristics differ in usage and frequency. The purpose of this study was to portray such functional differences by means of the semantic map approach.

First, the essive case is one of the adverbial cases, and it has lexicalized and adverbial usage also. In Finnish, the time and place meanings are most probably original functions of the essive, whereas in Hungarian the lexical and conjunctive functions are lexicalized from the basic (property) meaning. Moreover, there are some mismatches of essive forms and functions, and their mismatches also differ between Finnish and Hungarian.

Second, this study examined word order positions in which the essive form appears. Finnish prefers the post-verbal position, and Hungarian the pre-verbal. These facts indicate that word order positions of the essive have some pattern effect on discourse-pragmatic elements.

Finally, the essive has different adverbial meanings in both languages, and frequent differences in word order positions. There are different semantic changes or grammaticalization patterns in each language; a future study is required to explore them, and the semantic maps above will help that study.

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