Universität Hamburg
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FAKULTÄT
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ADPOSITIONS OR RELATOR NOUN: GRAMMATICALIZATION PROCESSES IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SELKUP

SOURCES FOR LOCATIVE ADPOSITIONS

body part		object part		landmark	
N	**ADP**	**N**	**ADP**	**N**	**ADP**
moqə 'back'	behind	*tōp* 'border'	at, on	*ilə* 'ground'	under
kö 'side'	beside, to	*par* 'top'	on, onto		
qāt 'forehead'	in front of	*tibə* 'end'	at at the edge of		
oli 'head'	in front of	*s'ünc'ə* 'inside'	in, into		
saj 'eye'	in the middle of	*pužo* 'inside'	under, in, into		

Tab. 1: Sources for locative adpositions in Selkup

SELKUP LANGUAGE(S)

- Selkup belongs to the Southern Samoyedic branch of the Uralic language family.
- Most speakers use a variant of the Northern Selkup dialects.
- Central and Southern Selkup dialects are highly endagered, only a few speakers still left.
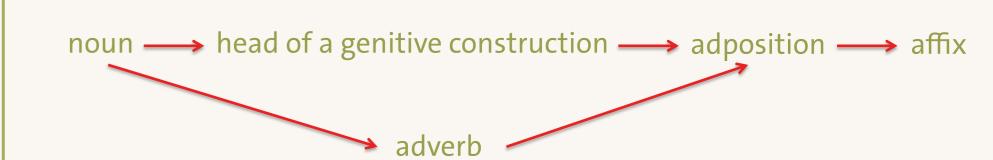
DATA

- The basis is the Central and Southern Selkup text corpus currently being developed at the University of Hamburg.
- Project: "Syntactic description of the Southern and Central Selkup dialects: a corpus-based investigation" (WA 3153/3-1, PI: Beáta Wagner-Nagy), founded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

	Central Selkup	Southern Selkup
texts	47	67
sentences	2,740	3,244
tokens	22,021	19,149

Tab. 2: Selkup text material

(RELATOR) NOUN

udimdə *moɣə-nne* *qūdəgoze sārugu.*
hand   back-LOC.ADV pull.strap bind
'to tie the hands behind the back.'
[PVD_1961_FarmAssault_flk_49], Chaya

HEAD OF GENITIVE CONSTRUCTION

ütč'ega *tep-a-n* *moqqo-n* *üt'imba.*
child   3SG-EP-GEN back-LOC.ADV sends
'The child runs after her.'
[KKN_1971_WhiteHeadWoman_flk_21], Middle Ket'

ADVERB

moːqinä qwanna.
back   goes
'(He) went back.'
[TFF_1967_ItjaAldigaScale_flk_18], Middle Ob

ADPOSITION

nač'idelle *šoɣor-n* *moɣo-qən omda.*
there   stove-GEN back-LOC sits.down
'(She) sat behind the oven.'
[SAA_1971_ThreeSisters_flk_28], Parabel'

(BOUND) AFFIX

Fig. 1: Grammaticalization scale in Selkup based on Heine/Claudi/Hünnemeyer (1991: 132)

Map 1: Selkup settlement areas
www.freeworldmaps.net

LOCALIZATION THEORY

- "[...] expressions of locations [...] are evolving in a specific way following a predictable path, going from concrete and specific to abstract and general in both semantic and morphological domains." (Svorou 1986: 516)
- This path can be illustrated by the following grammaticalization scale from Heine/Claudi/Hünnemeyer (1991: 132).

noun → head of a genitive construction → adposition → affix
→ adverb →

- Nominal sources for locative adpositions include categories like body parts, object parts and environmental landmarks (see Heine/Claudi/Hünnemeyer 1991: 123ff.)

*kai 'side, rib'

-qit/-qin 'LOC'

SUMMARY

- In Central and Southern Selkup nearly all relator nouns exist in almost all stages of the grammaticalization process (Fig. 1) side by side: noun, genitive construction, adverb and adposition.
- Due to the lack of new language material the last stage - a bound affix - cannot be observed in the today's Selkup language.
- The starting and end point of the gram. process (Fig. 1) can be illustrated with the example of the Selkup local case suffix *-qit*.
- The case suffix originate from the Protosamojedic (relator) noun **kai* 'side, rib'
- Examples for the intermediate steps can only be found in the current language material, where the relator noun *kö* 'side, rib' becomes an adposition: *madən kəɣən* 'beside the house' [PMP_1961_ForestWoman_flk_132, Middle Ob]
- the final *-t* in *-qit* could be a former possessive suffixe.

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REFERENCES

- Fig. 1: *Grammaticalization scale in Selkup*, based on Heine/Claudi/Hünnemeyer (1991: 132)
- Map 1: *Selkup settlement areas*. www.freeworldmaps.net
- Tab. 1: *Sources for locative adpositions in Selkup*. Selkup Spoken Language Corpus (2015+). Inst. of Finno-Ugric/Uralic Studies. Universität Hamburg
- Tab. 2: *Selkup text material*. Selkup Spoken Language Corpus (2015+). Inst. of Finno-Ugric/Uralic Studies. Universität Hamburg
- Heine, B., U. Claudi & F. Hünnemeyer (1991). *Grammaticalization: a conceptual framework*. Chicago.
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