

Repair operations in Hungarian

Zsuzsanna Németh

nemethzs7@gmail.com

University of Szeged, Hungary

This research was supported by the Hungarian government's
TÁMOP-4.2.2/B-10/1/2010-0012

PURPOSE: to reveal the most important characteristics of *recycling*, *replacement*, *insertion*, and *deletion* in Hungarian spontaneous conversations

STRUCTURE:

1. A general overview of the repair operations
2. Data and methods
3. Previous findings
4. A preference hierarchy hypothesis
5. Testing the model
6. Summary

REPAIR: a range of practices for dealing with problems in speaking, hearing, or understanding talk-in interaction (Schegloff et al. 1977)

(1) (Wilkinson and Weatherall 2011: 66)

Extract 1: blind [Hyla and Nancy]

Hyla: this girl's fixed up on a **da- blind da:te**

↓ ↓ ↓
A B C

A: repaired segment
B: repair initiation
C: repairing segment

(2) (SK2: 763)

B: a legtöbb-et nekünk **e-** **szörnyű** hallgat-ni
the most-ACC for.us **e-** **horrible** listen-NF

↓ ↓ ↓
A B C

'most of them are horrible for us to listen to'

SELF-INITIATED SAME-TURN SELF-REPAIR:

the repairable and repairing segments occur in the same turn and the repair is performed by the initiator of the repairable (Rieger 2003: 48)

REPAIR OPERATIONS:

the resources of repair, which affect the form of sentences and the ordering of elements in them (Schegloff 1979: 261)

repair operation \neq repair type (cf. Fox and Jasperson 1995)

- a repair operation can describe more than one type

(Rieger 2003)

- a repair type can be the combination of repair operations

SIMPLE REPAIR: only one repair operation is involved

RECYCLING: the consecutive usage of the same quasi-lexical or lexical item or items (Rieger 2003: 51)

self-repair recycling: its function is to gain linguistic and/or cognitive planning time or to postpone the possible transition-relevance place (Rieger 2003: 47)

(3) (Fox et al. 2010: 2488)

Hey would you like **a Trenton::,(.) a Trenton** telephone directory

(4) (bea002f002: 83)

de ez a szervofék **ez ez** nem veszélyes
but this the servobrake **this this** not dangerous
'Is not this servobrake dangerous?'

REPLACEMENT: to substitute a quasi-lexical or lexical item or items for another quasi-lexical or lexical item or items when the repaired and the repairing segment belong to the same syntactic class

(5) (Fox et al. 2010: 2488)

and the the ***moo- thing*** was the Dark at the Top of the Stairs

(6) (bea003n001: 152)

és akkor már után-a így együtt ***vo- vándoroltunk***
and then already after-3SG in.this.way together ***vo- wander-PAST-1PL***
'and after that we wandered together'

INSERTION: the speakers halt their talk-in-progress to go back and add something else into the turn before resuming (Wilkinson and Weatherall 2011: 65)

(7) (Wilkinson and Weatherall 2011: 66)

Extract 2: electoral

[BBC Radio 4, PM, 4.6.09]

Man: he's made a ***calc- .h an electoral calculation***

(8) (bea001f001: 16)

B: ***mond-t- ott mond-t-ák*** hogy á nem nem
say-PAST- there say-PAST-3PL that á no no
'there they said that á no, no'

DELETION:the speaker casts off the ongoing turn-constructural unit and starts anew with another one (Laakso and Sorjonen 2010: 1153). The word type is eliminated (Fox et al. 2009: 102).

(9) (bea002f002: 77)

a gázpedál is ö: teljesen mechanikus úton kerül-t
the accelerator also ö: totally mechanical way-SUP come-PAST

kapcsolat-ba **a- az** porlasztó-s volt nem befecskendezős
contact-ILL **the- that** carburetor-ADER be.PAST.3SG not fuel.injected

‘in a totally mechanical way, the accelerator came into contact with the- there was a carburetor not fuel injection’

DATA

- length of the corpora: 145' 4"
- each corpus consists of casual face-to-face conversations among friends (3 participants per interaction)
- 17 speakers across 10 interactions
- instances of simple self-initiated same-turn self-repairs

The data for the study come from two corpora, one compiled by the Institute of Psychology, University of Szeged, and the other by Kempelen Farkas Speech Research Laboratory in the Research Institute for Linguistics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest (Gósy 2008).

PREVIOUS WORK ON RECYCLING AND REPLACEMENT

- **Schegloff (1979)**: the privileged function of recycling is the delay of the next item due
- **Fox et al. (2010)**: languages with function words preceding their respective content words show a preference for recycling back to function words rather than content words so as to delay the next content word due
- **Fox et al. (2009), Fox et al. (2010)**: the over-representation of content words in replacement repairs

HUNGARIAN

- **Lerch (2007)**: the lexical categories serving as destinations of recycling are mainly function words
- **Gyarmathy (2009)**: function words are over-represented in *repetitions* as compared to content words
- **Németh (2012)**: content words are over-represented in *replacements* as compared to function words

CONTRASTING RECYCLING AND REPLACEMENT IN THE REPAIR MECHANISM

RECYCLING: linguistic and/or cognitive planning in languages with function words preceding their respective content words
(preventing a potential surface problem)

REPLACEMENT: intended production
(treating an already existing surface problem)



Hypothesis: recycling is more preferred in these languages than replacement

Table 1**Recycling and replacement repairs in languages examined so far**

	Recycling	Replacement	Total
English (Fox et al. 2010)	111 (76%)	36 (24%)	147
Hebrew (Fox et al. 2010)	128 (83%)	27 (17%)	155
German (Fox et al. 2010)	98 (69%)	44 (31%)	142
Indon. (Fox et al. 2009)	117(80%)	29 (20%)	146
Japan. (Fox et al. 2009)	147 (73%)	53 (27%)	200
Mand. (Fox et al. 2009)	115 (77%)	35 (23%)	150
Bikol (Fox et al. 2009)	162 (88%)	23 (12%)	185
Finnish (Fox et al. 2009)	116 (72%)	46 (28%)	162
Hungarian (Németh 2012)	415 (75%)	142 (25%)	557



not only languages with function words before content words, but all the previously examined languages show a **preference for recycling** repairs over replacement repairs (e.g. Japanese: more recyclings initiated before the word is recognizably complete (Fox et al. 2009))



if speakers cannot employ a recycling repair where they need extra time, they will substitute it with a restarting repair to be able to fix the problem without a replacement (Németh 2012)



difference between recycling and replacement



difference between all the repair operations

THE MARKEDNESS OF REPAIR OPERATIONS

- INSERTION

Schegloff (2008): "speakers override the preference for progressivity"

"what sorts of things warrant such an override, warrant such a marked usage?"

- RECYCLING

Schegloff (1979): for whatever cognitive or interactional reason the recycling happens, its purpose is always to stop the progressivity of the current turn

HYPOTHESIS

it is an inherent characteristic of repair operations to stop the progressivity of the current turn



employing a repair operation is always a marked usage



difference in the way they override the preference for progressivity



different markedness (cf. Jakobson 1932)

HYPOTHESIS

The markedness of a repair operation is determined by the presence or absence of

- redundancy
- retrospectivity
- unintendedness
- TCU-scope.

The more features of the four can be assigned to a repair operation the higher its markedness degree will be.

RECYCLING: the consecutive usage of the same quasi-lexical or lexical item or items (Rieger 2003: 51)

(10) (Fox et al. 2010: 2488)

Hey would you like **a Trenton::,(.) a Trenton** telephone directory

|
redundancy

INSERTION: the speaker goes back to add something else into the turn before resuming

(11) (Wilkinson and Weatherall 2011: 66)

Man: he's made a **calc- .h an electoral calculation**

| |
redundancy retrospectivity

REPLACEMENT: to substitute a quasi-lexical or lexical item or items for another quasi-lexical or lexical item or items when the repaired and the repairing segment belong to the same syntactic class

(12) (Fox et al. 2010: 2488)

and the the ***moo- thing*** was the Dark at the Top of the Stairs

|
redundancy

retrospectivity

unintendedness

DELETION:the speaker casts off the ongoing turn-constructural unit and starts anew with another one (Laakso and Sorjonen 2010: 1153). The word type is eliminated (Fox et al. 2009: 102).

(13) (bea002f002: 77)

a gázpedál is ö: teljesen mechanikus úton kerül-t
the accelerator also ö: totally mechanical way-SUP come-PAST

kapcsolat-ba **a- az** porlasztós-s volt nem befecskendezős
contact-ILL **the- that** carburetor-ADER be.PAST.3SG not fuel.injected

'in a totally mechanical way, the accelerator came into contact with the-

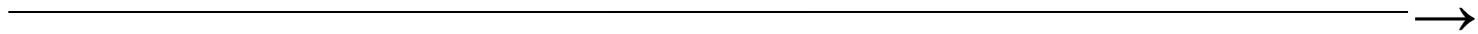
redundancy, retrospectivity, unintendedness
TCU-scope

there was a carburetor not fuel injection'

THE FOUR REPAIR OPERATIONS IN ORDER OF INCREASING MARKEDNESS

RECYCLING > INSERTION > REPLACEMENT > DELETION

redundancy	redundancy	redundancy	redundancy
	retrospectivity	retrospectivity	retrospectivity
		unintendedness	unintendedness
			TCU-scope



cumulation

FURTHER HYPOTHESIS: every feature assigned to the repair operation makes it less preferred, the less marked a repair operation is, the more preferred it will be in the repair process

Table 2

The occurring patterns of repair operation sequences in the corpus

Recycling + Recycling	33 (34%)
Recycling + Deletion	15 (16%)
Recycling + Replacement	11 (11%)
Recycling + Insertion	9 (9%)
Recycling + Recycling + Recycling	6 (6%)
Replacement + Replacement	5 (5%)
Replacement + Recycling	4 (4%)
Replacement + Deletion	2 (2%)
Recycling + Recycling + Replacement	2 (2%)

Table 2

The occurring patterns of repair operation sequences in the corpus

Recycling + Recycling + Deletion	2(2%)
Replacement + Replacement + Deletion	1(1%)
Recycling + Insertion + Deletion	1(1%)
Recycling + Recycling + Insertion	1(1%)
Recycling + Recycling + Replacement + Deletion	1(1%)
Replacement + Insertion	1(1%)
Recycling + Replacement + Recycling	1(1%)
Recycling + Replacement + Recycling + Recycling	1(1%)
TOTAL	96

RESULTS

- 93% of the occurring patterns support the hypothesis (89 instances in 96)

(14) (bea007f005: 433) **Recycling + Recycling**

B: **csak** (.) **csak** ő egy **kicsi-t** ö:(.) **kicsi-t** ö: jo-bb-an
but (.) **but** she a **little-ACC** ö:(.) **little-ACC** ö: good-CMP-ADV

tart-ott-a magá-t a papír-formá-hoz
adhere-PAST-3SG herself-ACC the paper-form-ALL

‘but she adhered to her plans a little bit more’

Table 2

The occurring patterns of repair operation sequences in the corpus

Recycling + Recycling	33 (34%)
Recycling + Deletion	15 (16%)
Recycling + Replacement	11 (11%)
Recycling + Insertion	9 (9%)
Recycling + Recycling + Recycling	6 (6%)
Replacement + Replacement	5 (5%)
Replacement + Recycling	4 (4%)
Replacement + Deletion	2 (2%)
Recycling + Recycling + Replacement	2 (2%)

Table 2

The occurring patterns of repair operation sequences in the corpus

Recycling + Recycling + Deletion	2(2%)
Replacement + Replacement + Deletion	1(1%)
Recycling + Insertion + Deletion	1(1%)
Recycling + Recycling + Insertion	1(1%)
Recycling + Recycling + Replacement + Deletion	1(1%)
Replacement + Insertion	1(1%)
Recycling + Replacement + Recycling	1(1%)
Recycling + Replacement + Recycling + Recycling	1(1%)
TOTAL	96

(15) (bea008f006: 535) **Recycling + Recycling + Deletion**

C: **akkor meg** (.) **akkor meg** **tehát így** **így** **ki-tölt-**
then and (.) **then and so** **in.this.way** **in.this.way** **PVB-spend-**

‘**then then in this way in this way she fill-** (so if she has to do less things in the same length of time, doing those things will fill in that period)’

(16) (bea007f005: 415) **Recycl. + Recycl. + Repl. + Del.**

A: **hogy** (.) **hogy én én g- gyak-** **gondol-om arr- a- azt** **akar-t-ák**
that (.) **that I I g- gyak-** **think-1SG arr- a- that-ACC want-ACC-3PL**

‘**that that I I (g- gyak-)** I think they wanted (me to leave the classroom crying)’

SUMMARY

- I attempted to set up the preference hierarchy of recycling, insertion, replacement, and deletion in the repair process.
- The preference hierarchy is grounded on the presumed markedness hierarchy of the four repair operations which was determined by considering four features:
 - redundancy
 - retrospectivity
 - unintendedness
 - TCU-scope
- According to the model, the four features can be assigned to the operations in a cumulative way, and the more of them are assigned to a repair operation the higher its markedness degree will be.
- The Hungarian data supported the model.

- Fox, Barbara, Jaspersen, Robert, 1995. A syntactic exploration of repair in English conversation. In: Davis, P. W. (Ed.), *Descriptive and Theoretical Modes in the Alternative Linguistics*. John Benjamins, Amsterdam, pp. 77–134.
- Fox, Barbara, Wouk, Fay, Hayashi, Makoto, Fincke, Steven, Tao, Liang, Sorjonen, Marja-Leena, Laakso, Minna, Hernandez Wilfrido Flores, 2009. A cross linguistic investigation of the site of initiation in same-turn self-repair. In: Sidnell, J. (Ed.), *Conversation Analysis: Comparative Perspectives*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 60–103.
- Fox, Barbara, Maschler, Yael, Uhmman, Susanne, 2010. A cross-linguistic study of self-repair: Evidence from English, German and Hebrew. *Journal of Pragmatics* 42, 2487– 2505.
- Gósy, Mária, 2008. Magyar spontánbeszéd-adatbázis – BEA. (A Hungarian spontaneous speech database – BEA, in Hungarian). In: Gósy Mária (Ed.), *Beszédkutatás 2008*. (Speech research 2008, in Hungarian). MTA Nyelvtudományi Intézet, Budapest, pp. 194–208.
- Gyarmathy, Dorottya, 2009. A beszélő bizonytalanságának jelzései: ismétlések és újraindítások. (The cues of speaker's uncertainty: repetitions and restarts, in Hungarian). In: Gósy Mária (Ed.), *Beszédkutatás 2009*. (Speech research 2009, in Hungarian). MTA Nyelvtudományi Intézet, Budapest, pp. 196–216.
- Jakobson, Roman, 1932. *The Structure of the Russian Verb* (reprinted in *Russian and Slavic Grammar Studies 1931–1981*). Mouton, 1984.
- Laakso, Minna, Sorjonen, Marja-Leena, 2010. Cut-off or particle – Devices for initiating self-repair in conversation. *Journal of Pragmatics* 42, 1151–1172.

- Lerch, Ágnes, 2007. Az ismétlés mint az önjavítás eszköze a magyarban. (Repetition as a means of self-repair in Hungarian, in Hungarian). In: Gecső T., Sárdi Cs. (Eds.), *Nyelvelmélet – nyelvhasználat*. (Language Theory and Language Use, in Hungarian). Tinta Könyvkiadó, Budapest, pp. 123–130.
- Németh, Zsuzsanna, 2012. Az ismétlés és a csere interakciós funkciói magyar nyelvű spontán társalgásokban. (The interactional functions of recycling and replacement in spontaneous Hungarian conversations, in Hungarian). In: Gósy Mária (Ed.), *Beszéd kutatás 2012*. (Speech research 2012, in Hungarian). MTA Nyelvtudományi Intézet, Budapest, pp. 154 –167.
- Rieger, Caroline L., 2003. Repetitions as self-repair strategies in English and German conversations. *Journal of Pragmatics* 35, 47–69.
- Schegloff, Emanuel A., 1979. The relevance of repair to syntax-for-conversation. In: Givón, T. (Ed.), *Discourse and Syntax*. *Syntax and Semantics* 12, Academic Press, New York, pp. 261–286.
- Schegloff, Emanuel A., 2008. Ten operations in self-initiated, same-turn repair. Paper presented at Conference on Repair and Intersubjectivity in Talk and Social Interaction, University of Toronto.
- Wilkinson, Sue, Weatherall, Ann, 2011. Insertion repair. *Research on Language and Social Interaction* 44/1, 65–91.

Thank you for your attention!