



## THE ITALIAN COMPOUND FUTURE IN LITERARY TEXTS: FUNCTIONS AND TRANSLATION EQUIVALENTS IN SLOVENE<sup>1</sup>

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Italian being a Romance language and Slovene belonging to the Slavic group, it is by no means surprising that the two languages' verb systems are fairly different both in the number of moods and tenses and in the way these are used. Differences may include both functional and formal elements: from the way modality is expressed to large scale formal differences, such as the presence of the conjunctive mode in Italian and its complete absence in Slovene (cf. Zorman 2000 for suggestions on how to deal with the problem from a pedagogical point of view), or specific differences in the use of single tenses or the absence of single tenses (cf. e.g. Miklič 1981, 1983, 1991, 1998, 2002, 2012). This is also the case with the object of the present article, the Compound Future (*futuro composto* or *futuro anteriore*), which does not have a formal equivalent in Slovene. While in Italian there is a Simple Future, which primarily expresses actions that will take place in the future sphere,<sup>2</sup> and a Compound Future, which is used to express anteriority in the future sphere, but also in a number of other functions, some of which are characterized by modality (Bertinetto 1995: 121-129), in Slovene there is only one Future Tense (*prihodnjik*), which is used to express all relations in the future sphere, as well as actions posterior to a reference point, and sometimes even modal nuances (Toporišič 1991).<sup>3</sup>

Apart from posing a challenge in language acquisition, such gaps also represent potential pitfalls for translators, particularly when the functions of a verb tense are varied and there are few or no explicit linguistic elements that can point them into the right direction. In the past decades, a relatively small number of studies comparing the Italian and Slovene verb system or viewing the Italian system from a Slovene point of view

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2 The Simple Future has a number of other uses and functions (cf. Bertinetto 1995), but they are not relevant to the present study.

3 Toporišič (1991: 334-335) states that the Slovene Future tense can be used to express actions that happen in the future, actions that are posterior to a reference point and also some modal values such as imperatives, threats, wishes, probability, possibility, concession and condition. The examples that are given, nevertheless, could usually be interpreted as either belonging to the future sphere or, less frequently, to the present sphere.

have been published, among the most notable are e.g. Grošelj (2014), Lenassi (2004), Miklič (1981, 1983, 1991, 1998, 2002, 2007, 2012), Miklič/Ožbot (2007), Mikolič Južnič (2014, 2017), Ožbot (2009), Zorman (2000) and others; nevertheless, none of them focuses on the Compound Future. Some of the most prominent studies of the Italian Compound Future in various frameworks, either on its own or in comparison with other languages, are Bazzanella/Bosco (2000), Berretta (1994, 1997), Bertinetto (1994, 1995), Giannakidou and Mari (2013), Squartini (2010, 2012).

Despite some minor differences, generally all authors agree that the Compound Future has at least two distinct uses, a temporal one and an epistemic one. The aim of this article is to explore these functions with reference to their translation into Slovene. A contrastive analysis is used to identify the uses of the Italian Compound Future and the ways in which these are translated into Slovene, particularly with reference to the different values of the Compound Future in Italian. A corpus of literary works originally written in Italian and translated into Slovene is used to extract examples for the analysis. Considering the inequality of the two tense systems, the research questions are: 1) which translation equivalents are available to Slovene translators when they need to render the meaning and function of the Italian Compound Future; and 2) what influence the nature of the Italian Future Perfect has on the selection of the translation equivalent in the Slovene texts. This could help shed additional light on the different means used in languages of different families to express meanings connected with actionality, temporal reference and aspect as defined by Bertinetto (1994).

## 2 THE ITALIAN COMPOUND FUTURE

The Compound Future, called in Italian the *futuro composto* (Bertinetto 1995), or *futuro anteriore* (e.g. in Dardano/Trifone 1995) is described as having both temporal and epistemic values. The main temporal value, as explained in Bertinetto (1995: 121), is that of anteriority with respect to a reference point situated in the future (*verrò a trovarti quando avrò finito*<sup>4</sup> ‘I will come to visit you when I have finished’<sup>5</sup>), which can be expressed either by another tense (typically the Simple Future) or by a time adverbial. Its use is parallel with that of other compound Italian tenses, but it differs in that the attention is not so much on the time of the event expressed with the Compound Future (which is in itself often left undefined), but on the reference point, i.e. the moment before which the action expressed with the Compound Future is to take place (ibid: 121-122). Its aspect is mainly perfective and it is mostly used with telic verbs (e.g. *domani alle 7 saremo partiti* ‘tomorrow at 7 we will be gone’), while non-telic, durative verbs can be used almost exclusively in the presence of an appropriate adverb (e.g. *Quando avrà pianto abbastanza, ne parleremo* ‘when he has cried enough, we will talk about it again’).

4 Examples in this chapter are taken from Bertinetto (1995).

5 English glosses are meant to reflect the meaning of the original sentence as closely as possible, but they usually do not reflect the form used in the original, as the values of tenses in Italian and in English tend to be quite different in this respect.

If the point of event and the reference point are situated in the extra-temporal sphere, the Compound Future may be used to express actions that take place before the reference point and are a condition for the realizations of the action expressed by a Simple Future, as in *chiunque avrà trasgredito a quest'obbligo, sarà punito con un'ammenda di 50 euro* 'anyone who fails to fulfil this obligation will be punished with a fine of 50 Euros' (Bertinetto 1986: 488-489). This kind of use is typical of legal texts and instruction manuals.

Furthermore, Bertinetto (ibid.: 124) mentions non-futural meanings, where the Compound Future is used to refer to past events in a non-epistemic way, i.e. to express past actions that happened prior to some reference point in the past, but admits (ibid.: 125) that it can be hard to distinguish between such instances and the epistemic use.

As mentioned, apart from the temporal uses, the Italian Compound Future is characterized by some epistemic values. Bertinetto (1995: 123-129) mentions the epistemic Compound Future, which is used to express a current hypothesis about a past event, such as in the example *Giovanni sarà uscito* 'Giovanni must have gone out'. The point of event is set prior to the point of speech and the reference point usually coincides with the speech point if not stated differently. The reference point may be explicitly worded as in *Luca sarà uscito poco fa, credo* 'Luca must have gone out a while ago, I think', or it can even be set further in the past, thus giving the Compound Future a markedly retrospective meaning, as in *Prima di lunedì scorso sarà sceso sì e no due volte dal letto; era ancora troppo debole* 'before Monday, he must have left the bed just a couple of times; he was too weak'.

Interestingly, unless the reference point of the Compound Future is explicitly stated to be posterior to the point of speech, it is to be considered simultaneous with it, which gives rise to its epistemic value. The reference point needs to be interpreted from the context, as the same sentence may give rise to various possible interpretations, either temporal or epistemic (cf. Bertinetto 1995: 127).

Since, as mentioned above, there is no compound future tense in Slovene, the functions expressed with the Italian Compound Future need to be realized with different means. In this article, it is hypothesised that considering the very different nature of the temporal and epistemic values of the analysed tense, examples of each of these functions will be translated through different means of expression, both by using the contextually appropriate Slovene tense (Future Tense, i.e. *prihodnjik*, or Past Tense, i.e. *preteklik*, depending on the position of the reference point) and with adverbial phrases or other elements that explicitly define the temporal sphere in which the action takes place.

### 3 CORPUS AND METHOD

For the purposes of this research, the Spook corpus was used. Spook is the first Slovene translational corpus and it was compiled between 2009 and 2011 (cf. Vintar 2013). The corpus comprises five subcorpora (a subcorpus of original Slovene literary works and four parallel subcorpora of English, French, German and Italian originals and their

Slovene translations) and it includes 95 modern literary works written (and translated) between 1992 and 2006. All the translations were written by native speakers of Slovene, therefore they reflect current use of the language in literary works.<sup>6</sup> The corpus is lemmatized and tagged, and the parallel subcorpora are aligned at sentence level. Table 1 shows the number of tokens for the subcorpus that was used in this analysis, i.e. the Italian-Slovene parallel subcorpus.

Table 1: Number of tokens for the Italian-to-Slovene subcorpus of the Spook corpus

Subcorpus section	Number of tokens
Italian originals	486,843
Slovene translations	478,591

The corpus is analysable through NoSketch Engine, an online concordancer and corpus analysis tool available at the Natural Language Server of the Department of Knowledge Technologies at the Jožef Stefan institute in Ljubljana.<sup>7</sup> All parts of the corpus can be searched separately and, in the case of parallel subcorpora, the results can be viewed as aligned concordances.

The analysis consisted of two main stages. First, the instances of Compound Future were automatically extracted from the corpus using an appropriate CQL query and afterwards the noise (i.e. improper examples) was manually eliminated. The second stage of the analysis focused on the manual analysis of both the original Italian instances of the analysed tense and of their translations. The Italian instances were divided into three categories according to whether the predominant function of the Compound Future displayed in the context was temporal, epistemic or both. The Slovene translations were analysed in terms of the type of tense that was used, as well as potential additional elements added to the sentence with the purpose of making the temporal/epistemic meaning clearer in the target language. The results were then cross-compared in order to define the most common translation patterns for each function of the Compound Future.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Frequency and functions

The extraction of the concordances with a Compound Future yielded a total of 58 examples, which is 12 instances per 100,000 words. This frequency seems relatively low and in line with what has been stated in previous studies (cf. Giordano/Voghera

6 Because of various factors connected with the process of translation, translated works usually display a series of features that differ from original works written in the same language (cf. Granger 2010), therefore comparable corpora (collections of original texts in two languages which have certain criteria in common such as time of composition, text type etc.) are often used when contrasting general linguistic features. In this case, a parallel corpus was preferred as the specific interest lies in the ways the Compound Future is translated into Slovene.

7 <https://www.clarin.si/noske/spook.cgi/>.

2002, who compare the frequencies of various Italian tenses in the written and spoken language<sup>8</sup>).

Regarding the function of the Compound Future in the analysed corpus of literary texts, the results are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2: Number of instances for different functions of the Compound Future in the analysed corpus

Function	Number of instances
Epistemic	33
Futural	24
Both	1

Out of the four functions associated with the Compound Future (cf. section 2), only two were present in the analysed corpus, i.e. the futural temporal use (example 1) and the epistemic use (example 2). There were no examples of the extratemporal Compound Future nor any of the non-futural type. In one instance, the sentence could be interpreted both as epistemic and as temporal, therefore it was analysed separately (example 3). Although the overall number of instances is rather small, it is clear that the epistemic function is considerably more frequent than the futural one: 57 % of the extracted instances are epistemic in nature, while 41 % are futural, the remaining 2 % representing the one example which displays both functions.

(1) Dopo che *avrà confessato*, l'ucciderò.

'After he confesses, I will kill him'

(2) Lo trovò un mattino che erano già tutti scesi, a Boston, lo trovò in una scatola di cartone. *Avrà avuto* dieci giorni, non di più.

'He found him one morning when everybody had already descended, in Boston, he found him in a cardboard box. He must have been ten days old, not more.'

(3) "... Prima o poi dovrò distruggerla." "Non subito." "No, non subito. E prima di allora immagino ne *avrai escogitata* un'altra delle tue. ..."

"Sooner or later I will have to destroy it." "Not immediately." "No, not immediately. And before that I imagine you will have devised another one of your tricks."

The Compound Future in example 3 (*avrai escogitata*) is temporal in nature, as it is used to express an action that will happen prior to a certain point in the future (*prima di allora*), but it also assumes an epistemic value through the context, which due to the

8 In their analysis, Giordano/Voghera (2002) do not distinguish between the Simple and Compound Future, yet the overall share of the future tenses is indeed low, amounting to a mere 2.4 % of all the analysed forms in the LIF corpus and 2.1 % in the LIP corpus.

presence of the verb *immagino*, gives it a strong sense of possibility, of a smaller probability of occurrence.

The greater frequency of the epistemic function is in line with the findings in other studies (e.g. Simone 2010), which notice that the temporal functions of the Compound Future are declining in frequency, either because the relation of anteriority is not signalled (and two Simple Futures are used) or because when the central event is expressed by a Present Tense (*Presente*), the anteriority is signalled with the use of the Compound Past (*Perfetto semplice*, i.e. *Passato prossimo*).

## 4.2 Translation equivalents

The second part of the manual analysis was focused on the structures found in the Slovene translations in place of the Italian Compound Future. Since the Slovene verb system is less rich with tenses than the Italian one, as it was mentioned above, it was expected that there would not be much variation in this respect. But considering the different nature of the epistemic and temporal uses of the Compound Future, the use of different tenses was hypothesized depending on the function and position of the reference point of a specific example. Table 3 shows the results of this analysis.

Table 3: Number of instances for different translation equivalents of the Compound Future in the analysed corpus

Translation equivalent	Number of instances
Present Tense	4
Future Tense	26
Past Tense	26
Omission	2

As seen in Table 3, there was an equal number of translations with a Past Tense (example 4) and a Future Tense (example 5), while the Present Tense (example 6) was used only occasionally. In two instances, the verb form was not translated into Slovene, but it was simply omitted, although it could be inferred from the context (example 7).

- (4) a. Sofia si preoccupò quando non vide Donata. “Che cosa le *sarà successo*? “ domandò a Irene che era arrivata per prima e stava già scaldandosi sulla cyclette.  
 ‘Sofia started to worry when she didn’t see Donata. “What could have happened to her?” she asked Irene who had come first e was already warming up on the exercise bike.’
- b. Sofia je bolj spravljala v zadrego odsotnost Donate. “Le kaj *se ji je zgodilo*?” je vprašala Irene, ki je bila tokrat bolj zgodnja, ker se je tudi ona odločila za vožnjo s kolesom.  
 ‘Sofia was more preoccupied with the absence of Donata. ”What could have happened to her?” asked Irene, who was earlier this time as she also decided to ride the bicycle.’

- (5) a. Lui ti mangerà in un solo boccone e per te *sarà finita*.  
 ‘He will eat you in one bite and for you it will be over.’  
 b. Z veseljem te bo použil in zate *bo vsega konec*.  
 ‘He will eat you with pleasure and everything will be over for you.’
- (6) a. Risparmiandomi la vita non avete nulla da perdere, salvo una bocca in più da sfamare. Uccidendomi, *avrete perduto* tutto. Prendere o lasciare.  
 ‘Sparing my life you don’t have anything to lose, except one more mouth to feed. Killing me you will have lost everything. Take it or leave it.’  
 b. Če me pustite pri življenju, ne izgubite ničesar razen tega, da boste imeli ena lačna usta več. Če me ubijete, pa *izgubite vse*.  
 ‘If you let me live, you do not lose anything, except that you will have one more hungry mouth. If you kill me, you lose everything.’
- (7) a. Come farei altrimenti a essere così sicuro che noi seguiamo lo stesso cammino che *avrà preso* Zosimo?  
 ‘Otherwise, how could I be so sure that we are following the same path that Zosimo must have taken?’  
 b. “Kako bi bil pa drugače tako prepričan, da gremo po isti poti *kot* Zosim?”  
 ‘How would I be so sure that we are taking the same path as Zosimo?’

Considering the multi-faceted nature of the Italian Compound Future, it was not surprising for this tense to be translated into Slovene with tenses from different temporal spheres, i.e. the Future Tense and the Past Tense, as well as other, more seldom used options. Interestingly, the two translation equivalents are equally frequent, while the Present Tense (*sedanjik*) is used only occasionally and the ellipsis is highly dependent on the context.

### 4.3 Cross comparison of the functions of the Compound Future and its translation equivalents

Much more telling than the quantitative data alone, though, are the results concerning the functions of the Compound Future cross-compared with its functions. Image 1 shows how the translation equivalents are distributed with respect to the functions performed by the original Compound Future.

As we can see, the instances with a Past Tense are all used when the function of the Compound Future is epistemic, while the Future Tense is almost always used as a translation of the Compound future in its temporal, futural use. There are a few exceptions to this: one is the example in which both functions are present (cf. example 3 above); and in three instances a Compound Future used in its epistemic function is translated with a Future Tense (e.g. example 8, in which the original context is somewhat wider to better understand the temporal relations).

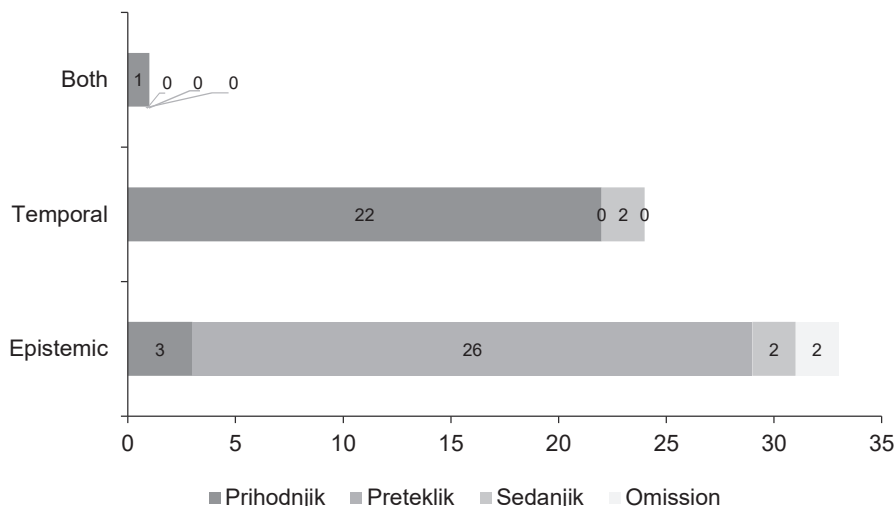


Image 1: Cross comparison of the functions of the Compound Future and its Slovene translation equivalents

- (8) a. - Ti ho cercato dappertutto -. E uno. - Nessuno sapeva niente -. E due. - Mi farai morire. Dove vai tutto il giorno? - E tre. - *Avranno pensato* che sono una madre che non vale niente -. E quattro. - Che non sono buona a educare i figli. - Basta! - urlavo io.  
 ‘- I searched for you everywhere -. And one. - Nobody knew anything -. And two. - You will make me die. Where do you go for the whole day? - And three. - They must have thought that I am no good as a mother -. And four. - That I am not good at educating the children. - Enough! - I shouted.’
- b. “Povsod sem te iskala.” In ena. “Nihče ni nič vedel.” In dva. “Še v grob me boš spravil. Kje hodiš ves dan?” In tri. “*Bodo* še kje *mislili*, da sem slaba mati.” In štiri. “Da ne znam vzgajati otrok.” “Nehaj!” sem kričal.  
 ‘I searched for you everywhere.’ And one. ‘Nobody knew anything.’ And two. ‘You will put me into a grave. Where do you go for the whole day?’ And three. ‘Some of them will think that I am a bad mother.’ And four. ‘That I am not capable of raising children.’ ‘Stop!’ I shouted.

In example 8, it is clear that the Compound Future is to be interpreted epistemically and its reference point is set in the past (the mother speculates on other people’s past thoughts). Yet the interpretation given by the Slovene translator is somewhat different: the use of the Future Tense is epistemic, but it implies a conditional relation (i.e. ‘the people will think that if you go missing again, if I have to look for you again’ etc.) and it is definitely not set in the past. The situation with the other two examples found is very similar, as we can see in (9) and (10).



- (9) a. È gente buona, te ne *sarai accorto*, e mi muore il cuore sapere che un giorno dovranno forse perire tutti [...]  
 ‘They are good people, you must have noticed, and my heart dies knowing that maybe one day they will all have to perish’  
 b. Lahko se boš prepričal, da so to dobri ljudje, in srce se mi para ob misli, da bodo nekega dne morda vsi pomrli [...]  
 ‘You will be able to ascertain that they are good people and my heart throbs at the thought that maybe one day they will all die’
- (10) a. *Avrà notato*, signor cavaliere, che io non Le rinfaccio la Sua ricchezza.  
 ‘You must have noticed, Mr knight, that I am not blaming you for your wealth.’  
 b. Naj *bo jasno*, gospod Vitez, da Vam ne očitam bogastva.  
 ‘Let it be clear, Mr Knight, that I do not blame you for your wealth.’

Although the use of the Future Tense in the translations of examples (8), (9) and (10) is not completely inappropriate – the epistemic component is indeed kept – and the text is not much affected as a whole, the use of the Past Tense would have been more in line with all the nuances of meaning expressed in the original. It would seem that the use of the Future Tense could be a consequence of interference as defined by Toury (1995), in the sense that the Compound Future is highly associated with futural interpretations and it might trigger the use of a Future Tense in Slovene even when such an interpretation is not appropriate.

The analysed examples seem to show that translators generally do not have problems with recognizing the function of the Italian Compound Future, yet they sometimes fail to identify the reference point of the event expressed and therefore select an inappropriate tense in the target language. It could be inferred that their choices are sometimes still influenced by the idea that they are dealing with a tense that is supposedly only used for future events. Since the Slovene Future tense cannot express both the epistemic and temporal functions in this way, it is not appropriate when the reference point is set in the past: the Past Tense is normally used, while the epistemic value is left to other elements in the context, such as adverbs and adverbial phrases. The types and distribution of these elements is explored in the next section.

#### 4.4 Other contextual elements used with the translation equivalents

In analysing the translation equivalents of the Compound Future, the focus was primarily on the verb forms used, as we have seen in the previous sections. But apart from the choice of the most appropriate tense, additional elements have been added to the sentence in order to make some of the implicit meanings of the original more explicit (cf. example 11).

- (11) a. *Avrai notato* che per amor di patria non ho parlato [...]  
 ‘You must have noticed that I didn’t talk out of love for the homeland’  
 b. Bržkone si opazil, da iz ljubezni do domovine nisem govorila [...]  
 ‘You have probably noticed that I didn’t talk out of love for the homeland’

In example (11), where the Compound Future is used in its epistemic function with the reference point set in the past, in the Slovene translation, along with the Past Tense, the adverb *bržkone* ('probably') is used to express what cannot be conveyed by the sole verb form., i.e. that the meaning is to be interpreted as epistemic.

There are 23 instances out of 58 in which adverbs or adverbial phrases are added in the translations that are not present in the source texts. The types of elements and their distribution with regard to the function expressed in the sentence are summarized in table 4.

Table 4: Adverbs and adverbial phrases used along the translation equivalents in the target texts

Epistemic		Temporal		Both	
no addition	13	no addition	21	no addition	1
zagotovo	5	enkrat	1		
lahko	4	brž ko	1		
najbrž	2	v tistem trenutku	1		
nemara	2				
naj	1				
kvečjemu	1				
gotovo	1				
morda	1				
bržkone	1				
pa ja	1				
le	1				

The different functions of the Compound Future are reflected also in the adverbial elements that are used: while the ones used in the translations of instances exhibiting the epistemic function are much more likely to have this kind of addition (20 instances with an adverbial phrase vs. 13 without any addition) and are used precisely to explicitly state the epistemic value (as seen in example 11 above), the translations of a Compound Future with a futural function are much more rarely accompanied by an adverbial phrase (only 3 instances out of 24), which are always also temporal in nature and emphasize some specific moment in time (example 12).

- (12) a. Dopo che avrà confessato, l'ucciderò.  
           'After he has confessed, I will kill him.'  
       b. Ko bo enkrat priznal, ga bom ubil.  
           'Once he has confessed, I will kill him.'

As can be seen in the first column of table 4, the types of adverbial phrases vary in their meaning on the scale of probability/possibility, ranging from those implying low

likelihood (*kvečjemu, pa ja, le*) to middle ones (*lahko, morda, naj*) and others expressing high likelihood or even certainty (*zagotovo, gotovo, bržkone*). While the interpretation given by the translator is supposedly inferred from the broader context in the source texts, it is clear that in the majority of the cases translators felt the need to compensate for the lack of expressiveness of the tense used and add these elements to make the epistemic value of the original sentence visible. Interestingly, although it is theoretically possible in Slovene to use the conditional form with *naj + bi*, which can be used to express a certain degree of uncertainty about the content reported both for the past and the future, this structure has not been used in the instances analysed.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

The analysis presented in this article has reaffirmed the complex nature of the Italian Compound Future, which has been confirmed to exhibit both temporal and epistemic values in the analysed literary corpus. The examples extracted from the corpus showed that the epistemic value is more frequent than the temporal one: 57 % of all the instances found are epistemic in nature, while 41 % are temporal, the rest being represented by one single example that exhibits both characteristics (cf. section 4.1). The differences among the two functions are expressed in the Slovene translations, mainly by the use of different tenses (the Future Tense and the Past Tense), but also by the addition of adverbial elements, especially when the meaning conveyed is epistemic in nature.

But although the analysed functions of the source text instances should map perfectly with the choices of structures in the target text, this is not completely the case. Apart from finding instances where the Compound Future is translated with a Present Tense, which is not very surprising, as the tense is often used to express future actions in Slovene regardless of their relative temporal nature, there are also a couple of examples where the verb is omitted altogether and some instances, presented in section 4.2, where an epistemic Compound Future with the reference point set in the past is translated with a Future Tense. Such examples hint at the influence of interference in the choice of the translation equivalent even in experienced professional translators. Special care should be therefore taken when introducing this tense to language students and trainee translators.

As was hypothesized, added adverbial phrases are often found alongside the translation equivalents in the Slovene texts: The vast majority of them serve to explicitly state the epistemic component of the events and are therefore used in combination with the Past Tense, while a reduced number is also used with the Future Tense in order to mark a specific point in time when the function of the original Compound Future is temporal.

As an exploratory study, this piece of research hopefully adds a small stone to the mosaic of Italian-Slovene contrastive linguistics. Due to the limited number of genres in the analysed corpus, the results should be tested against other types of corpora and they should also be compared with a parallel study of the translation of epistemic values into Italian. Since the number of examples that were present in the analysed corpus

is relatively small, the need for a bigger and richer collection of texts arises in order to gain wider insight.

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#### Abstract

#### THE ITALIAN COMPOUND FUTURE IN LITERARY TEXTS: FUNCTIONS AND TRANSLATION EQUIVALENTS IN SLOVENE

The article presents a study of the Italian Compound Future, which is known to be used to perform different functions in a text. The way these functions are realized in different languages may vary considerably, which may pose a problem in translation. The

study focuses on the functions of the Compound Future in a parallel corpus of Italian literary texts and their Slovene translations. After the extraction of the instances with the Compound Future and the analysis of their functions in the original texts, types of translation equivalents are singled out and cross-compared with the functions in the original. Beside the Slovene tenses used as translation equivalents of the Italian Compound Future, also other elements are observed in the translations, such as adverbial phrases that are used to convey the modal component which cannot be expressed by the Slovene tenses. It appears that with a few exceptions caused most probably by interference, the translators were mostly aware of the functional differences between temporal and epistemic instances of Compound Future and were able to transfer the meanings adequately.

**Keywords:** Italian, Slovene, Compound Future, contrastive analysis, literary corpus

#### Povzetek

#### ITALIJANSKI SESTAVLJENI PRIHODNJIK V KNJIŽEVNIH BESEDILIH: FUNKCIJE IN PREVODNE USTREZNICE V SLOVENŠČINI

Prispevek predstavlja študijo o italijanskem sestavljenem prihodnjiku, ki je poznan po mnogoterosti funkcij, ki jih lahko ima v besedilu. Načini, kako se te funkcije udejanjajo, se lahko močno razlikujejo med jeziki in potencialno predstavljajo prevajalsko težavo. Raziskava se osredotoča na funkcije sestavljenega prihodnjika v vzporednem korpusu italijanskih leposlovnih del in njihovih slovenskih prevodov. Po luščenju primerov, ki vsebujejo sestavljeni prihodnjik, in analizi njihovih funkcij v izvirnih besedilih so bili identificirani tipi prevodnih ustreznice in navzkrižno primerjani s funkcijami izvirnikov. Poleg slovenskih glagolskih časov, ki so bili uporabljeni kot prevodne ustreznice italijanskega sestavljenega prihodnjika, so v prevodih prisotni tudi drugi elementi, kot so prislovne besedne zveze, uporabljene za izražanje modalnosti, ki je ni moč ubesediti le s slovenskim glagolskim časom. Zdi se, da se – z nekaj izjemami, pogojenimi najverjetneje z interferenco – prevajalci večinoma zavedajo funkcijskih razlik med časovnim in epistemskim sestavljenim prihodnjikom in so zato uspešno prenesli pomene v ciljni jezik.

**Ključne besede:** italijanščina, slovenščina, sestavljeni prihodnjik, kontrastivna analiza, leposlovni korpus