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The Preposition-Opposeme of the Romanian Substantival Non-Ts

Diana-Maria ROMAN

Abstract
The aim of our paper is to prove that, in the Romanian language, at the intrapropositional level, the preposition/prepositional phrase can actualize two hypostases: preposition-relateme, marking the presence of relational meaning, vs preposition-opposeme, marking the absence of relational meaning, depending on the syntactic position in which it occurs alongside certain parts of speech with the status of lexemes, our analysis focusing on the substantival class: structural syntactic position of the type part of sentence and syntactical function, whatever these are, vs. non-structural syntactic position. Apposition or — as it is accepted, from a didactic point of view, by the Cluj-based neotraditional relational School of Grammar with which our research is affiliated — real apposition, by contrast with false apposition, is considered by G. G. Neamţu to be a non-structural syntactic position of the parenthetic or explanatory type, a peculiar syntactic phenomenon, which cannot be relationally subsumed through either coordination or subordination; in other words, it is a syntactical non-function or a non-Ts, regardless of the part of speech through which it is expressed. The placement of the preposition/prepositional phrase in front of the apposition does not change the non-relational context in which the latter is found (it becomes a preposition-opposeme and the apposition remains a non-Ts) or the casual substantival regime of this morphological value; it imposes, in the case of the substantival class that follows it (since Romanian is an inflected language), one of three possible cases — the accusative, the genitive or the dative. In the absence of the preposition/prepositional phrase, the flective of the substantival apposition represents, in its entirety, an opposeme (a unit of expression without a relational sense), a flective-opposeme, as the expression of the grammatical categories of opposition, implicitly, and the case, a flective-opposeme of case, the latter existing in a dichotomy with the flective-relateme of case, which may be actualized in certain syntactic structural positions of the type part of sentence and syntactic function, in the absence of the preposition-relateme.

Keywords: preposition-relateme, preposition-opposeme, apposition, non-structural position, hypostasis, flective-opposeme, flective-relateme.

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1. Introduction
This study is a research on contemporary Romanian language, grammar or morphosyntax, conducted along entirely synchronic lines and affiliated with the Cluj-based neotraditional relational School of Grammar, resorting thus to a specific conceptual apparatus. Our study proposes reopening the discussion on the hypostases that the preposition/prepositional phrase can actualize, depending on the syntactic positions in which it may occur.
We believe that the central thesis of the research is topical as it subjects the status of this part of speech to debate, from the standpoint of the presence or absence of syntactical meaning, which may be actualized in the presence of different morphological values of the Romanian language. In our study, examples are limited to the morphological values integrated in the substantival class, having the quality of lexemes, next to which they may or may not perform various syntactical functions.
We believe that the impact of our analysis is relevant, since by debating these issues that are directly relevant for the system of the Romanian language as regards the relational and non-relational hypostases of the preposition/prepositional phrase, we can generalize the perimeter of interpretation and exemplification to all the other languages in which this morphological value occurs and features case inflection.

2. The relational and non-relational hypostasis of the preposition/prepositional phrase in the context of structural and non-structural syntactic positions
When we refer, in grammar, to the concept of syntactic position, advanced by Valeria Guţu Romalo,\(^2\) (1973, p. 78, subnote 1) the dichotomy structural positions vs non-structural positions, proposed by G. G. Neamţu\(^3\) (Neamţu, 2005) appears to be fundamental for understanding the ways in which prepositions\(^4\) (prepositional phrases) are used in the Romanian language.

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\(^2\) The term position refers to the place a component occupies in the structure of a sentence (what relationship it participates in, in what capacity, to what term), and not its place in the linear sequence of the sentence.

\(^3\) For the entire discussion of that opposition, with the corresponding sub-classifications, all of them adopted in full as regards its terminology and significance, see (Neamţu, 2005).

\(^4\) We are referring to both simple and compound prepositions (GBLR, 2010, p. 322).
The only syntactic positions that can be occupied by this part of speech, which is always situated, as its very name suggests, before another class of words – nouns, pronouns, numerals with a pronominal value, non-personal verb forms, adverbs and interjections, are the following two:

2.1. The relational hypostasis of the preposition/prepositional phrase in structural syntactic positions of the type part of sentence and syntactical function

Within certain structural positions of the part of sentence and syntactic function type. A preposition (prepositional phrase) always accompanies another part of speech, with a lexeme status (in this case, An exception in this regard is de, places after certain adjectives or adverbs: Ea este grozav de frumoasă. (She is an incredibly beautiful girl); Ea este extrem de inteligentă. (She is an extremely intelligent girl); Noul tren introdus pe ruta Timișoara-București este formidabil de rapid. (The new train on the Timișoara-Bucharest route is incredibly fast) etc., see (Drașoveanu, 1997, pp. 52-58).

For the special situations in which the preposition (prepositional phrase) may also appear before the adjective phrase, before a qualifying adjective, regardless of the syntactic function: O știu de mică. (I have known her since she was little); Plecarea ei de mică în străinătate nu mi s-a părut potrivită. (Her moving abroad so young did not seem suitable to me); in front of a possessive pronominal adjective, regardless of the syntactic function: Deciziile împotriva noastră au fost luate ieri. (The decisions against us were taken yesterday.); Au ajuns la petrecere înaintea noastră. (They had arrived at the party before us) see (Neamțu, 2005).

For the special situations of possessive dative + preposition: Oamenii din fața-i nu sunt susținătorii noștri. (The people in front of him are not our supporters); Deciziile împotriva-ți nu fac parte dintr-un plan ascuns. (The decisions against you are not part of a hidden agenda) see (Neamțu, 2005).

The only non-personal verb forms (or non-finite verb forms, cf.), also known as likely to be actualized as prepositional functions are the infinitive and the supine (GALR, I, 2005, pp. 486-524).

We shall not discuss here the exceptions, whether apparent or real, from the nominative of the subject (GALR, II, 2005, pp. 330-352).

Another structural position of the part of sentence type, but which is never a syntactic function is the subject: Because it is never subordinate, but always superordinate (Tr = head term), the subject is not a function of something, in this case the predicate. In other words, the subject is a “part of the sentence,” it occupies “a syntactic position,” but it is not a syntactic function. (Neamțu, 2014, p. 382), unlike other linguists who consider it a function or Ts in a relationship of interdependence or of bilateral dependence (Gâţu Romalo, 1973, p. 38), (GALR, II, 2005, p. 17).

By lexeme, we understand the preexisting quality of a word of being / becoming a term in a relationship, either Ts – a subordinated term – or Tr – a head term – in a subordinative relationship either at intra-sentence level or at inter-sentence level; either Ta – a pre-posed term – or Tp – a post-posed term – in a coordinative relationship,
the lexeme coincides with the entire word), and forms, together with that part of speech, a dependent term (Ts) that, regardless of its morphological value (because it always fulfils a prepositional syntactic function),\textsuperscript{12} is subordinated to a head term (Tr) in a binary\textsuperscript{13} subordinative syntagm at the intra-sentence level.\textsuperscript{14}

All grammar treatises refer exclusively to the above-mentioned contexts, focusing solely on subordination and regarding the preposition (prepositional phrase) as a materialization of the relateme. By relateme we understand here any segment of expression used as a means of achieving a syntactic relation, be it connective (prepositions, conjunctions, relative pronouns etc.) or flectional (desinences, articles, some proclitic affixes, some suffixes etc.) (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 29), coinciding with the relation as a linguistic sign that represents the solidarity between content and expression (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 29): words that express rapport (prepositions and conjunctions). They are [...] grammatical tools (instruments), because they express relations, in the sense that they help other parts of speech to connect between themselves in the sentence or clauses to connect themselves in the sentence (Zdrenghia, 1970, pp. 35-36), As a grammatical instrument or tool, the preposition expresses exclusively syntactic relations of subordination or dependency between the two parts of the sentence. (Sinteze de limba română, 1984, p. 262)

Moreover, it is always grouped with at least two more terms (autonomous words), establishing a certain rapport between them. Functionally, therefore, a preposition is a grammatical tool which, while being part of a specific syntagm, can only constitute itself as a term of this syntagm if it is taken together with another word. (LRC, 1985, p. 263) In the same treatise, Prepositions express dependency relations within the limits of a sentence [...] This functional feature of the preposition (expressing syntagmatic relations) makes it very similar to causal morphemes (LRC, 1985, p. 265).

Last but not least, a preposition is a nonflexible part speech that plays the role of a supporting word which expresses determination rapport between either at intra-sentence level or at inter-sentence level, which is why the lexeme is individualized after the removal of the relateme (Neamţu, 2005).

\textsuperscript{12}By prepositional function, we understand the manner of subordinating the morphological value in question (the morphological value in question with a particular syntactic function will be subordinated through a preposition-relateme), regardless of the type of syntactic function.

\textsuperscript{13}The subordinative syntagm is exclusively binary (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 35-36).

\textsuperscript{14}For the opposition intra-sentence level vs inter-sentence level, see (GBLR, 2010, p. 349).
the parts of the sentence, usually linking attributes and complements to the words determined by them. (Avram, 2001, p. 264) Along the same lines, prepositions are a class of invariable words which behave like clitics and fulfil, within the sentence, a connective and hierarchizing role, linking two components and placing one and the other in a syntactic position of subordination. (DŚL, 2005, pp. 402-403) or Prepositions represent a class of nonflexible words which, especially at the level of the sentence, mark the relationship between a dependent term and its head term. (GALR, I, 2005, p. 607)

In these contexts, the preposition (prepositional phrase), as a subordinative intra-sentence relateme, may appear in front of nouns, pronouns, numerals with pronominal value, non-personal verb forms, adverbs and interjections: prepositional nominal attribute\(^{15}\) – Masa ta de lemn din bucătărie s-a rupt aseară. (Your wooden table from the kitchen broke last night.);
prepositional pronominal attribute – Cartea de la voi mi s-a părut interesantă. (The book from you seemed interesting to me.);
prepositional pronominal\(^{16}\) numeral\(^{17}\) attribute – Discuţia cu doi dintre prietenii tăi mi s-a părut interesantă. (The discussion with two of your friends seemed interesting to me.);
prepositional adverbial attribute – Ziua de ieri a fost îngrozitoare pentru mine. (The day of yesterday was awful for me.);
prepositional interjectional attribute – Amicul acela al tău din străinătate e un om ca vai de el. (That friend of yours from abroad is wretched person.);
prepositional infinitival (verbal) attribute – Planul nostru de a-l înfrunta şi de data aceasta nu s-a mai realizat din motive obiective. (Our plan to confront him this time again has not come to fruition for objective reasons.)

In the exclusive circumstance of a structural position of the part of sentence and syntactic function type, hence, a Ts, prepositions, the relational grammatical categories of the Romanian language (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 78-93), materialized in the flective of relates, as an expression of these categories, and of adherence,\(^{18}\) all of these being carriers of a

\(^{15}\) For a relational-categorial classification of attributes in Romanian, see (Neamţu, 2014, pp. 381-416).
\(^{16}\) With new distinctions proposed by Gabriela Pană Dindelegan, see (2003, pp. 75-86), cardinal and ordinal numerals have three values – nominal, pronominal and adjectival, a coordinate maintained both in GALR 2005, and in GBLR 2010.
\(^{17}\) Through this lexical-grammatical class, we refer only to the two types of numerals recognized by GBLR – cardinal numerals and ordinal numerals, see (2010, pp. 180-181).
\(^{18}\) For adherence as a means of subordination at the intra-sentence level, representing the zero expression of subordinating relateme, especially as regards adverbial forms (Chircu, 2000, pp. 149-152), (Chircu, 2007, pp. 29-36).
subordinative intra-sentence relational meaning, must be considered as subtypes of intra-sentence subordinative relatemes, which becomes means of subordination – the only ones possible at the intra-sentence level, organizing subordinative intra-sentence binary syntagms.

Retaining the common note of all these relatemes, sometimes dependent on the part of speech we refer to, we can say that relational meanings are those meanings that put in certain antinomies [...] two other non-relational meanings. (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 22) Organized differently, at the level of expression, we propose the terms preposition-relateme, which can generate prepositional functions, flective-relateme, which can generate flectional functions, and adherence-relateme, which can generate adherence functions. Through the latter word of these compound nouns we preserve the common content of all these relatemes, while through the former word we highlight their different expression.

Regarding the nominal class, morphological values actualized in a structural position of the part of sentence and syntactic function type, there are only two subtypes of relatemes known to this day: the preposition-relateme and the case flective-relateme, the latter being the materialization of the only relational grammatical category specific to that class, as opposed to, for instance, the adjectival class, where not only case, but also gender and number are relational grammatical categories.

These, the preposition-relateme and the case flective-relateme, are mutually exclusive: if the nominal form is accompanied by a preposition-relateme, the subordination of the Ts is achieved through it: Nu ştiu cât de interesată ești tu de planurile (prepositional object expressed through a noun in the prepositional accusative case), mele, dar eu sunt interesată de ale tale. (I don’t know how interested you are in my plans, but I am interested in yours.); if the nominal form is without a preposition-relateme, the subordination of the Ts is achieved through

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19 Every part of speech has its own specificity when it comes to the means of subordination. That is why, for example, adjectival phrases can never be subordinated through the preposition-relateme, just like noun phrases can never be subordinated through agreement.

20 By the nominal (noun phrase) class we understand the noun and its substitutes (the pronoun and the numeral), as well as any substantivized word, see (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 251-252).

21 For an inventory of relational and oppositional grammatical categories in the Romanian language, see (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 78-93).
the case flective-relateme – I-am povestit acestei prietene (indirect object expressed through a noun in the nonprepositional dative) din copilărie ultimele mele experienţe (direct object expressed through a noun in the nonprepositional accusative case) neplăcute. (I have told this childhood friend my latest experiences). The preposition-relateme and the case flective-relateme may never be actualized simultaneously, because this would violate the principle of the uniqueness of syntactic functions.\textsuperscript{22}

\section{The relational hypostasis of the preposition/prepositional phrase in structural syntactic positions of the parenthetic or explanatory type – the substantival apposition}

In the case of non-structural positions (\textit{relationally not integrated in the structure through either coordination or subordination, so much so that, at least theoretically, it is out of the question to consider them syntactic functions of any kind, of the parenthetic or explicative position type}), which include the totality of incidental words and constructions of all kinds), in the present study, the discussion is focused exclusively on what is known as apposition\textsuperscript{23} in grammar or, to be more precise, as real apposition\textsuperscript{24} or explicative apposition\textsuperscript{25} (\textit{their content consists in explaining the term before them}) (Neamţu, 2007, p. 317): Cadoul de la Ioana, de la prietena mea din străinătate, va sosi mâine. (The gift from Ioana, from my friend from abroad, will arrive tomorrow.) These contexts represent, by the force of things, a

\textsuperscript{22} Normally the general principle of subordination concerns the exclusiveness of the relational means (agreement, or prepositions, or the case (nonprepositional case), or the preposition, or the conjunction, or adherence; but not one and another). From here, another essential principle is generated, namely the mono-subordination of a syntactic functions, proved through the explicit existence of only one subordinating relateme (preposition, agreement, inflection (of case or personal modal) etc.) (Neamţu, 2007, p. 7)

\textsuperscript{23} For a full discussion about apposition and the corresponding sentence, a historical overview, examples, specialized bibliography, see (Hodiş, 1990). In this paper, from all approaches to and interpretations of apposition, we retain the view that apposition is a syntactic non-function, a syntactic non-relation, therefore a non-Ts.

\textsuperscript{24} In the terminology of D. D. Draşoveanu, apposition appears along two coordinates, out of the need for delineating two realities that are not only different, but downright, diametrically opposed: real apposition (apposition proper) vs false apposition, the latter having the syntactic function of an attribute. (1997, pp. 119-130)

\textsuperscript{25} From a didactic point of view, considering the content and mode of construction, we know about the dichotomy between the explicative apposition (real apposition) in content and isolated as a mode of construction and the determinative apposition (false apposition, the attribute) in content and not isolated as a mode of construction, (Neamţu, 2007, pp. 316).
syntactic non-rapport\(^{26}\) (Neamțu, 2014, p. 476) or a syntactic non-function, hence, a non-Ts,\(^{27}\) unlike those described under point 2.1.: a special syntactic aspect, which is not integrated relationally (through either subordination or coordination) in a syntagm and as such, is not a syntactic function proper, of the attributive or any other kind (Neamțu, 2014, p. 410).

This point of view is already known by the grammar scholars in Cluj: \textit{Apposition does not present us with a third possibility, which would be provided by rapports, because since there isn't a third kind of R, other than Rc or Rs (a possible Ra, see supra.), hence, since there isn't a third manner of organizing the terms, it lies outside relations, being nothing but a reedited T, or R-T group, its duplicate, its copy, i.e. a segment that is in any case parenthetic in the speech chain.} (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 49) or \textit{Nothing that comes under the umbrella of the parenthetic, neither the incidental nor the explicative segments – is a function, because by the very fact of being placed between brackets, they do not actualize valences. Real apposition, for the same reason, is also not a function, as it is nothing but the repetition, the copy, the duplicate of a given function; real apposition does not even have a Tr, but merely an explained term.} (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 75, pp. 67-68).

That is why the typology of relations in the Romanian language is reduced to two: subordination and coordination, despite other points of view.\(^{28}\) (DȘL, 2005, p. 65) In these situations, the preposition

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\(^{26}\) First, the lack of a syntactic relation or of a function expressed through the apposition must also be justified from the point of view of its isolation in the sentence, as a parenthetic syntactic phenomenon, marked through specific signs: the pair of pauses, marked in writing by the pair of commas or graphic equivalents (= the pair of dashes or the pair of brackets); this isolation is also recognized by other authors (Constantinescu-Dobridor, 1998, p. 263) It may be deduced that the apposition is always isolated from the term that is resumed, explained and specified, through a particular intonation, through a break marked with the help of a comma, a column, a dash (sometimes even through brackets or a full stops); (GBLR, 2010, p. 354) The apposition must be isolated (prosodically through pauses and graphically through commas)...

\(^{27}\) The apposition is not the only non-Ts of the Romanian language; the nominal vocative appears in the same situation (only the nominal vocative – Ioane, ce mai faci? (John, how are you?), because, in the case of the adjectival vocative, it agrees with a Tr, with a nominal vocative – Iubiţi colaboratori, nu credeţi că e timpul să ne oprim aici cu plângerile?! (Dear collaborators, don't you think it's time we stopped here with the complaints?!) Hence, the adjective has the status of a syntactic function) also regarded as a non-structural position of the vocative or addressative type, and the subject.

\(^{28}\) In structural syntax, apposition was considered \textit{a different syntactic position from that of the attribute, characterized by a syntactic-semantic relation of equivalence, a relation that is also possible for a different type of head term than a nominal, pronominal or numeral one.} For these reasons, many linguists accept a third syntactic relationship, known as a relation of equivalence (Guţu Romalo, 1973, p. 43), a relation of apposition (Irimia, 1997, p. 13), a relation of equivalence or an appositive relation (GALR, II, 2005, p. 16), an appositioning relation (GBLR, 2010, p. 347) or an appositive relation (GBLR, 2010, p. 354).
(prepositional phrase) may appear both in front of the nominal class (Nu
mi-ai mai spus nimic despre Vlad, despre fiul tău mai mic. (Lately, you
haven’t been telling me anything about Vlad, about your youngest son.);
Întâlnirea are loc in grădina, în locul meu preferat. (The rendezvous
takes place in the garden, in my favourite place.) (GALR, I, 2005, p.
621) and in front of other parts of speech outside it (for example, in
front of a non-personal verb form: Este impresionantă dorinţa lui de a
învăţa, adică de a fi cel mai bun. (It is impressive his desire to learn,
that is to be the best.; (GBLR, 2010, p. 598) Era clară dorinţa lui de a
triumfa, adică de a fi mai bun decât toţi cei de faţă. (It was clear his
desire to triumph, that is to be better than everyone present here).
(GALR, I, 2005, p. 621)

As for the apposition, limited, in the present study, only to the
nominal apposition,29 expressed only through nouns, pronouns and
numerals with a pronominal value, it may appear in the following
contexts:

2.2.1. Nominal apposition in the context in which the preceding
term is a nominal form,30 with any of the morphological values of noun,
pronoun or numeral with a pronominal value.31

When the preceding term is nominal,32 the nominal apposition is
actualized: (2.2.1.1) either only in the nominative, regardless of the case
of the preceding noun phrase, (2.2.1.2) or in any of the cases, but which
is always the same as the case of the preceding noun phrase, (Avram,
2001, p. 350) as follows:

2.2.1.1. The nominal apposition in N, regardless of its
morphological value and regardless of the morphological value of the
preceding term, a value that must by all means belong to the nominal

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29 At the level of morphological values, apposition can also be expressed, besides the
nominal class, through adjectives, non-personal verb forms, and adverbs
30 In this paper, it makes no difference if the morphological values of the preceding
term and of the apposition are or not the same.
31 The fact that the preceding term is a noun or a pronoun or a numeral with a
pronominal value does not change the angle of looking at the actualization contexts of
the nominal apposition.
32 In Romanian, there are situations in which the precedent term is a noun phrase, the
apposition actualizing another morphological value situated outside the noun phrase: S-
a instalat în acest oraş, aici. (He settled in this town, here.) (GBLR, 2010, p. 598),
a. An apposition expressed through a noun: Ieri m-a vizitat Andrei, fostul meu student. (Yesterday, Andrei, my former student, visited me.); Toată ziua m-am gândit la Maria, fosta mea colegă de bancă. (All day I have been thinking about Maria, my former desk mate.); I-aş trimite băiatului meu din străinătate, fiul meu cel mic, un pachet, dar nu are cine să-l ducă. (I would send my son from abroad, my youngest son, a parcel, but there is no one to deliver it to him.); Ultima carte a colegului meu de cămin, un tip timid, a avut un real succes. (The latest book of my dorm mate, a shy guy, was a real success.); Năzdrăvanule, amicul meu din studenţie, nu te-am mai văzut de mult timp! (You funny man, my mate from college years, I haven’t seen you in a long time!);

b. An apposition expressed through a pronoun: Mihai, cel din faţa ta, mi-a spus foarte clar că nu va articipa mâine la congres. (Mihai, the one in front of you, has told me very clearly that he would not attend the congress tomorrow.); Am cunoscut o fată foarte simpatică, adică ea. (I have met a very nice girl, her, that is.); Le arătasem bunului meu prieten, acesta de lângă tine, şi frumoasei lui soţii, aceea de lângă Toma, noua mea maşină. (I have been showing to my good friend, this one next to you, and to his beautiful wife, that one next to Toma, my new car.); Planurile găştilui mele, cea de aici, nu pot să dea greş atunci când vine vorba de revoluţie ştiinţifică. (The plans of my gang, this one here, cannot fail when it comes to a scientific revolution.);

c. An apposition expressed through a numeral with pronominal value: Fratele meu, primul de pe listă, va întârziia mai mult decât ne-am dori. (My brother, the first one on the list, will be late more than we would have wanted to.); Îi văzusem pe ceilalţi comercianţi, primul din faţă şi al doilea din stânga, făcând afaceri ilicite. (I had seen the other traders, the first one at the front and the second one to the left, doing shifty business.); Te-aş trimite pachet tatâlui tău în străinătate, primul care mi-a spus să-l anunţ când faci prostii. (I would ship you as a parcel to your father abroad, the first one who told me to let him know when you’re doing stupid things.); Planurile prietenilor mei, primii din rândul patru al adunării, nu au fost luate în considerare. (The plans of my friends, the first ones in the fourth row of the gathering, have not been

33 Cel is considered, in this context, a semi-independent demonstrative pronoun; for the whole discussion about this morphological value, in certain contexts, see (Neamțu, 1993, pp. 191-203).
2.2.1.2. The nominal apposition in any of the cases, regardless of its morphological value, the case having to be identical with that of the preceding noun phrase. In this situation, we can further differentiate between two contexts:

2.2.1.2.1. The nominal apposition will have the same nonprepositional case as the nonprepositional case of the preceding noun phrase, more specifically, since the case of the antecedent is nonprepositional, the case of the nominal apposition will also be nonprepositional:

a. An apposition expressed through a noun: Vlad, solistul trupei noastre, ne-a amenințat că va abandona scena. (Vlad, the lead singer of our band, has threatened us he would leave the stage.); L-am revăzut pe Mihai, pe organizatorul petrecerilor noastre din studenție, luna trecută. (I saw Mihai again, the organiser of our parties from

34 By nonprepositional case we understand, on the one hand, cases that may never be accompanied by prepositions (prepositional phrases), namely the nominative and the vocative, on the other hand, cases that may or may not be accompanied by prepositions (prepositional phrases specific to a particular case – the accusative, the genitive, the dative), i.e. the accusative, the genitive and the dative: compare Am văzut o pisică. (I saw a cat.) (nonprepositional accusative) with M-am gândit la o pisică. (I have been thinking of a cat.) (prepositional accusative); Casa studentului Popescu este aşezată pe malul Someşului. (The house of student Popescu is located on the bank of the river Someş.) (nonprepositional genitive) with Casa din fața studentului Popescu este a unui amic mai vechi. (The house in front of student Popescu is of an older friend.) (prepositional genitive); I-am povestit colegului de bancă ultima mea experiență din fotbal. (I have been telling my desk mate my latest experience with football.) (nonprepositional dative) with Reuşita datorită colegului de bancă trebuie răsplătită. (The success thanks to the desk mate must be rewarded.) (prepositional dative).

35 Romanian does not have the nominal apposition in the nonprepositional genitive case, regardless of its morphological value: in an example like: Documentele casei noastre, ale moștenirii de la bunica, au fost furate anul trecut. (The papers to our house, of the inheritance from grandma, were stolen last year.), ale moștenirii (of the inheritance) will be analysed separately, each word having its own morphological value and syntactic function, so only ale, a semi-independent possessive pronoun, will be apposition, but always in the nonprepositional N, while moștenirii will be an nominal attribute in the genitive, with the Tr = ale. (GBLR, 2010, p. 599). For the whole discussion about the existence of a semi-independent possessive pronoun in Romanian, see (Neamţu, 2008, pp. 22-30).

36 The Romanian language does not have the nominal apposition in the nonprepositional accusative case, outside the morpheme pe (if one admits the existence of the opposition morpheme pe vs preposition pe), irrespective of its morphological value.
college years, last month); Cred că nouă, prietenilor tăi de la bloc, ar trebui să ne dai socoteală în ceea ce priveşte ultimele dezamăgiri. (I think that to us, your friends from your block of flats, you are accountable with regard to the latest disappointments.); Tinere, amice, pe unde mai umbli, că ești tare scump la vedere?! (Young man, my friend, what are your whereabouts because you’re such a rare treat to my eyes?!) 

b. An apposition expressed through a pronoun: Ionica, acesta din fața ta, a câștigat locul I la olimpiada de istorie. (Ionica, this one in front of you, has won first place on a national level at the History Olympiad.); Chiar pe noi vrei să ne miși, pe prietenii tăi din copilărie?! (Is it really you want to lie to, your childhood friends?); Dă-ne nouă o explicație pertinentă, celor care te-am susținut mereu! (Give us a pertinent explanation, to us the ones who have always supported you!)

c. An apposition expressed through a numeral with pronominal value: Ioana, prima din clasa voastră la matematică, a renunțat să mai participe în acest an la olimpiadă, motivele fiind necunoscute. (Ioana, the first one in your class at Maths, has given up participating this year in the olympiad, the reasons being unknown.); Nu i-am mai văzut de foarte multă vreme pe Andrei și Victor, pe doi dintre cei mai glumeți oameni pe care i-am cunoscut. (I haven’t seen in a long time Andrei and Victor, two of the funniest people I have ever met.); Vouă, primilor din clasă, v-aș da oferi cele mai scumpe premii, dar fondul școlii nu ne permite. (To you, the first ones in your class, I would offer the most expensive prizes, but the school funds prevent me.)

2.2.1.2.2. The nominal apposition will take the same prepositional case as the prepositional case of the preceding noun phrase, more precisely, since the case of the antecedent is prepositional (if the preceding term is a noun phrase), the case of the nominal apposition will also be prepositional:

a. An apposition expressed through a noun: L-am întâlnit în Deva, în orașul în care m-am născut. (I have met him in Deva, in the town where I was born.); Am fost întotdeauna împotriva minciunilor, împotriva dorinței de a ascunde sau nu adevărul. (I have always been against lies, against the desire to hide the truth or not.); Nu vreau sa fiu contrar atitudinii tale, contrar părerilor tale despre politica românească. (I do not want to be contrary to your attitude, contrary to your

37 In this situation are only cases that may appear with prepositions (prepositional phrases) too, the accusative, the genitive, the dative.
opinions on Romanian politics.)

b. An apposition expressed through a pronoun: M-am aşezat lângă Victor, lângă cel din faţa ta. (I sat next to Victor, next to the one in front of you.); Mă gândesc adeseori la Maria, la ea. (I think often of Maria, of her.); Am fost întotdeauna împotriva colegilor tăi de clasă, împotriva celor care nu mi-ai susţinut punctul de vedere. (I have always been against your classmates, against those who had not backed my point of view.);

c. An apposition expressed through a numeral with pronominal value: Nu mi-ai mai spus nesci despre George şi Petrică, despre primii din asociaţia noastră care au avut curajul să spună lucrurilor pe nume. (You haven’t been telling me anything about George and Petrică, about the first ones in our association who had the courage to tell things as they were.); Nu cred că îmi doresc să fiu împotriva colegilor, împotriva celor care m-au ajutat când am avut nevoie. (I do not think I wish to be against my colleagues, against those who have helped me when I needed.)

2.2.2. The preceding term is another part of speech or even an entire sentence:

When the preceding term is not nominal, the nominal apposition is actualized: (2.2.2.1.) either only in the nominative, (2.2.2.2.) or in any of the prepositional cases, as follows:

2.2.2.1. The preceding term may be an entire sentence: Nu învaţă, dovadă că nu-l interesează. (He is not studying, proof that he does not care.); Absentează mereu în ultima vreme, lucru care mă deranjează. (He has been constantly skipping classes lately, a thing that worries me.); Nu-i atent la lecţii, problemă care mă pune pe gânduri. (He is not being attentive to lessons, an issue which gets me thinking.)

The nominal apposition, known, in these examples, as an inter-sentence summative apposition,38 which appeared out of the need that the determinative relative should have a head term (Neamţu, 2007, p. 175) must be in N. The reason for this is found in the general trend of our language to place the apposition in N; on the other hand, the analogy with similar situations — nouns with the NAc form in headlines, announcements, various non-analyzable nominal sentences are interpreted as being in the nominative. (In general, a NAc form outside

38 The designation is taken after G.G. Neamţu (2005).
2.2.2.2. The nominal apposition must be in a prepositional case, in any of the following three possible prepositional cases: Este foarte frumos aici, la tine. (It is very beautiful here, at your place); Aici, în acest sat, s-au petrecut multe. (Here, in this village, a lot of things have happened); Acolo, pe deal, pasc oile. (There, on the hill, sheep graze.) (Constantinescu-Dobridor, 1998, p. 262) The proof is precisely the presence of prepositions that are specific to the prepositional cases in Romanian.

In all the situations mentioned above, we have the following aspects that must be taken into account:

The nominal apposition, regardless of the morphological value manifested, in this case, through a noun, a pronoun, or a numeral with pronominal value, and regardless of the morphological value of the antecedent, represents – by way of recognizing it as a non-structural position of the parenthetic or explicative type – a non-Ts, hence, a non-syntactic function or a syntactic non-rapport, a truth that is already axiomatic.

By accepting this status of the nominal apposition, it goes without saying, as a sine qua non condition, that it cannot be subordinated to the preceding term (whether it is nominal, when it is nominal, or whether it has any other morphological value outside the nominal).

Nor can it be subordinated to any other part of speech in the sentence: not even through the grammatical category of case, actualized in the situations in which the nominal apposition appears in the absence of the preposition, a reality that has already been highlighted: The N,\(^{39}\) [...] of the real apposition is not relational, for the apposition is not an actant, hence, it is not a function, but a duplicate thereof. (Draşoveanu, 1997, p. 87) either only in the nominative, regardless of the case of the preceding noun phrase, or in any of the nonprepositional cases – N, Ac, D, V, contexts in which that grammatical category becomes oppositional. (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 86-88)

Hence, it becomes non-relational, being expressed through the

\(^{39}\) For marking the grammatical categories with the indices 1,2,3 and the relevant explanations, see (Draşoveanu, 1997, pp. 80-82).
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reflective of opposition,\(^{40}\) i.e. the case flective-opposeme,\(^{41}\) as the opposite of its pair – the case flective-relateme (the same nonprepositional case experiencing, at the level of expression, two hypostases: on the one hand, as a relational grammatical category – as a case flective-relateme; on the other hand, as an oppositional grammatical category – as a case flective-opposeme).

It can also not be subordinated to any other part of speech in the sentence through the preposition (prepositional phrase) when the nominal apposition is accompanied by it (in any of the prepositional cases); in these contexts, following the model above, we shall propose the term preposition-opposeme, as the opposite of its pair – the preposition-relateme (the same preposition or prepositional phrase), experiencing two hypostases at the level of expression: on the other hand, as a relateme or, rather, as a preposition-relateme, on the other hand, as an opposeme or, rather, as a preposition-opposeme).

Thus, in the given situations, it is either only the preposition-opposeme (the contexts in which the nominal apposition is accompanied by the preposition or prepositional phrase) or only the case flective-opposeme that can be actualized (the contexts in which the nominal apposition is not accompanied by the preposition or prepositional phrase), the status of non-syntactic function, of non-Ts of the noun phrase remaining the same.

Moreover, Romanian, as a language that has case inflection, has a certain inventory of prepositions and prepositional phrases, which have a case regime,\(^{42}\) a one-case regime in this respect, imposing upon the declinable word (exclusively nominal, as the only morphological values

\(^{40}\) For the functional classification of cases, case1, case2, case3, see (Drașoveanu, 1997, pp. 80-81, 94-100). Normally, the author refers only to the nominative of the apposition; however, the non-relational hypostasis of the case can be extended easily – in fact, all nonprepositional cases of the nominal apposition are non-relational, actualizing oppositional flectives at the level of expression.

\(^{41}\) For the meaning of opposeme, see (Neamțu, 2005).

\(^{42}\) Among the Cluj-based scholars, the term regime appears in two circumstances: a. in the context of prepositions (prepositional phrases), b. in the context of relational flectives, as expressions of the relational grammatical categories (Drașoveanu, 1997, pp. 226-232, p. 48); The term regime is also known in grammar as rection (Guțu Romalo, 1973, p. 63); (Irimia, 1983, p. 27); (Constantinescu-Dobridor, 1998, p. 33), (GALR, II, 2005, p. 18); (DȘL, 2005, pp. 423-424) and is also extended to other parts of speech – verbs, adjectives, adverbs, interjections, with the status of Tr in certain intra-sentence subordinative syntagms (Guțu-Romalo, 1973, pp. 63-65).
that have the grammatical category of case and may be accompanied by prepositions) after a certain case, depending on the situation, one of three possible cases: Ac, G, or D, regardless of whether the preposition (prepositional phrase) along with the noun phrase are or are not Ts.

Both the preposition-relateme and the preposition-opposeme impose case restrictions on the noun phrase they precede, the former in a subordinative intra-sentence syntagm, the other outside a syntagm of any kind, the proof of the existence of that case being given, in both contexts, by the adjectival Ts that is subordinated or can be subordinated to these noun phrases: S-au dus la prietenii tăi din copilărie, pe motiv că au ceva de discutat. (They went to your childhood friends on grounds that they had something to talk about.); S-au dus la Ioana, la prietena noastră din copilărie, pe motiv că au ceva de discutat. (They went to Ioana, to our childhood friend, on grounds they had something to talk about.) (The two possessive pronominal adjectives are in the Ac case, a case that is in agreement with a prepositional accusative case, both performing the syntactic function of an adjectival attribute).

3. Conclusions:
In an attempt to synthesize the contributions of our research, we may conclude that there can be delineated two hypostases of prepositions (prepositional phrases) in the Romanian language from the standpoint of the presence or absence of relational meaning, which is compulsory depending on the syntactic position in which they may appear, and not in general terms, as it was considered up to this point:

In the situation of a structural position of the part of sentence and syntactic function type, expressed through a specific morphological value, regardless of its kind – nouns, pronouns, numerals with pronominal value, non-personal verb forms, adverbs, interjections, the

43 In the functional classification of cases advanced by D. D. Draşoveanu, this case in agreement bears index 2, so in our case, it is an Ac2.
44 There is no morphosyntactic difference between the adjectival Ts of an apposition as non-Ts (but Tr for it) and the adjectival Ts of a Ts (Tr for it, but a syntactic function for another Tr). So far, scholars have not considered the possibility that apposition, even with this status of non-Ts, might cancel its Tr status for another syntactic function, regardless of the morphological value, in the sentence, the phenomenon being similar, on the one hand, with that of the vocative, since the nominal vocative can always be a Tr for another part of speech with a certain syntactic function, even if it is a non-Ts; on the other hand, with that of the subject, a mandatory Tr for the verb-predicate, being possible for it to have other subordinate terms in the structure.
The preposition (prepositional phrase), when it is present, becomes a carrier of relational meaning and knows the hypostasis of a preposition-relateme, individualizing itself as a subtype of the intra-sentence subordinative relateme, generating prepositional functions. In the case of a structural position of the part of sentence and syntactic function type, expressed through a noun phrase, in the absence of a preposition-relateme, Ts will be subordinated to a Tr through a case flective-relateme, in the hypostasis of relational grammatical category, generating flectional functions, just like, in the absence of case flective-relateme, Ts will be subordinated to a Tr through a preposition-relateme, generating prepositional nominal functions.

In the situation of a non-structural position of the parenthetic and explicative type, in our case, since we are speaking only about apposition, regardless of the actualized morphological values, the preposition (prepositional phrase), when present, is no longer the carrier of relational meaning, precisely because of its integration in such a context, and knows the hypostasis of a preposition-opposeme, individualizing itself as a subtype of the intra-sentence opposeme. In the case of a nominal apposition, in the absence of the preposition as a preposition-opposeme (prepositional phrase), the grammatical category of case, whatever its member, will know its non-relational hypostasis of an oppositional grammatical category, being a case flective-opposeme.

The preposition-opposeme and the preposition-relateme have several traits in common in the nominal class: a mandatory position in front of the directed word (exclusively from the nominal class) (Drăsoveanu, 1997, p. 231), the former before a non-nominal-Ts, the latter in front of a nominal-Ts, their case regime being maintained identical, since they demand of the noun phrase that follows them a particular prepositional case out of three possible cases: the accusative, the genitive or the dative case.

References


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