

Title: Derivative Meanings of Russian indefinite adverbs: mechanism of pragmaticalization  
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Abstract:

Our paper analyzes derivative meanings of the Russian indefinite adverbs *как-то*, *как-нибудь*, *где-то* and *где-нибудь*, meanings that are either not registered in grammars or dictionaries, or whose description is incomplete or unsatisfactory. We trace different ways and mechanisms of semantic derivation of these adverbs from their primary meaning (indefinite manner and place) to their quasi-temporal meanings and a range of their discourse-pragmatic uses.

In particular, we show that quasi-temporal meanings, registered for all four adverbs, are context-determined. For *где-то* and *где-нибудь*, this meaning can only be realized in the context of temporal expressions, cf. *я освобожусь где-то/где-нибудь через час*. For *как-то* and *как-нибудь*, on the other hand, it requires a context of either a temporal expression (*расскажу как-нибудь в другой раз*), or of a verb whose semantics does not imply a complement of manner, cf. *Мы как-нибудь обязательно сходим в Большой театр*; *Мы как-то встретились с ним в Париже*. In the context of verbs that do imply such a complement, *как-то* and *как-нибудь* are more likely to be understood in their primary meaning of indefinite manner, cf. *Он как-нибудь сдаст/как-то сдал экзамены*.

Besides quasi-temporal meanings, the adverbs *где-то* and *где-нибудь* have developed uses conveying the idea of quantitative or temporal approximation as in *У нас осталось денег где-то/где-нибудь на 5 бутылок, это было где-то/где-нибудь в 2011 году*. The adverbs *где-то* and *как-то*, on the other hand, can convey what could be defined as “descriptive” approximation (‘in some way’), cf. *это где-то даже абсурдно; это как-то странно*, which includes a subjective viewpoint of the speaker.

The adverb *как-нибудь* can be used as a discursive marker that reinforces the meaning of non-controllability implied by a verb or a construction (Зализняк, Денисова, Микаэлян 2018).

The study uses data collected from the Russian National Corpus, including its parallel (Russian-English and Russian-French) subcorpora.