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This paper focuses on adverbs with an adjectival lexical base in Modern Brazilian Portuguese (=BP). We compare the frequencies of three different types of adverbials: adverbs in *-mente* (e.g. *absolutamente*), adjective adverbs (e.g. *alto* in *falar alto* ‘speak loudly’) and prepositional phrases of the type “Preposition + Adjective” (e.g. *de novo*), as they often form groups based on the same root (e.g. *primeiramente* – *primeiro* – *de primeiro*; *seriamente* – *sério* – *a sério*). We compare their type- and token-frequencies in spoken and written BP. The data is based on a scrutiny of the *Discurso & Gramática*-corpus which consists of oral interviews of 171 informants and their written texts on the same topic as the one in the interviews. Hence, this corpus allows to contrast spoken and written language of the same informants.

During the project “Open-Access-Database: Adjective-adverb Interfaces in Romance” (<http://gams.uni-graz.at/context:aaif>), the corpus was annotated and lemmatized. In total, over 4.000 examples (tokens) of adverbs based on adjectival roots were found in the *Discurso & Gramática*-corpus. There are 267 different adverbials (types = lemmas), which are based on 221 different base adjectives (lexical roots). The present paper presents a first quantitative analysis of this data, within the framework of a research project on prepositional adverbials. The main findings of the paper, contrasting the three different types of adverbials (adjective-adverbs = AA, adverbs ending in *-mente*, and prepositional adverbs = PA), are to be found below.

In present-day BP, AA are the most frequent in terms of token-frequency, whereas adverbs in *-mente* are the most frequent in terms of type-frequency. Hence, there is a smaller inventory of highly frequent AA (types) in comparison to a more diversified inventory of less frequently used *-mente*-adverbs (types). The data shows that *-mente* is the most productive pattern to form new adverbs based on adjectives (e.g., half of the lexemes occur just once, i.e., only one token). PA-adverbials are less frequent – both in terms of types and tokens – than AA and *-mente*. Only one PA, *de novo*, is used in a considerable manner, whereas the other forms are marginal. Regarding the overlapping of adverbials based on the same lexical root (i.e., groups like *seriamente* – *sério* – *a sério*), we observe a tendency towards lexical differentiation in terms of selecting one adverbial-type or another: most lexical roots (base adjectives) appear either as *mente*-adverbs or as AA. Only regarding the (scarce) PA-adverbials we observe a tendency towards lexical overlapping and possible synonymy: PA occur mostly (79%) in groups with *mente*-adverbs or AA based on the same adjectival root.

Regarding the (relative/normalized) frequencies in spoken and written code, AAs – the most frequent formation type in both subcorpora – are more frequent in the oral corpus than in the written corpus. *Mente*-adverbs, on the other hand, show a clear preference for the written code: their frequency in the written corpus is twice as high as in the spoken corpus. Code-based variation is most salient for *mente*-adverbs and the study confirms the prevalence of *mente*-adverbs in written language. As shown by two examples, speakers may substitute AA such as *só* and PA such as *de novo* by *mente*-adverbs (*somente* and *novamente*, respectively) when writing down a story they told before.

Both in the written and spoken subcorpora, PA are less frequent than *mente*-adverbs and AA. Regarding the code, there is no remarkable difference in the case of PA, since they occur almost equally in the oral and the written subcorpus and are only slightly more frequent in the written database. Furthermore, in the context of lexical diversification (i.e., different types = different adjectival roots), most PA-types are used in both subcorpora, whereas *mente*-adverbs (types) are the most diversified in the written subcorpus and AA (types) in the spoken one. These results indicate that PA form a small inventory of lexicalized forms, which are equally used in written and spoken BP as somewhat ‘neutral’ forms that are not marked for any code.