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Bakalářská práce

The frequency and distribution
of the derivational suffix *-ly* in corpora

Frekvence a distribuce derivační
přípony *-ly* v korpusech

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Abstract

The suffix *-ly* is often considered to be primarily adverbial. The aim of this Bachelor's thesis is to revise that hypothesis through corpus-based research. Data from corpora, one of British and one of American English, both strongly suggest that the suffix *-ly* is mainly used for creating adverbs. The thesis is written in the English language.

Anotace

Přípona *-ly* v anglickém jazyce je často považována za primárně adverbiální. Cílem této Bakalářské práce je revize této hypotézy pomocí korpusového výzkumu. Data z korpusů britské i americké angličtiny silně nasvědčují tomu, že přípona *-ly* slouží převážně k tvoření příslovcí. Práce je psaná v anglickém jazyce.

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Introduction

Theoretical part of the thesis draws from publications of linguists and professors of linguistics, such as Rochelle Lieber, Ingo Plag, Leonhard Lipka or Laurie Bauer. There is a brief introduction into basics of morphology, including a quick overview of the differences between inflection and derivation.

There is a mention of different types of classification of affixes, such as categories based on semantics, or on the part of speech of the derivatives and their bases. Besides prefixes and suffixes, some less known types of affixes are mentioned, such as infixes, interfixes, circumfixes or simulfixes.

A closer focus is put on the suffix *-ly*. Multiple sources consider adjectival *-ly* to be barely productive, unlike its adverbial counterpart.

The practical part contains corpus-based research within the British Web corpus and the American Corpus of Contemporary American English. Its aim is to investigate the frequency of the suffix *-ly* and its distribution between adverbs and adjectives, with the goal to examine the hypothesis assuming that the suffix is primarily adverbial.

Theoretical part

1. Morphology

“Morphology is the study of word formation, including the ways new words are coined in the languages of the world, and the way forms of words are varied depending on how they’re used in sentences.” (Lieber 2009: 2). A morpheme is defined as the smallest unit of language with its own meaning (Ibid., 3).

Lipka speaks of so-called linguistic signs. They are mental units linking concepts to phonic images according to Saussure’s binary model (Lipka 1992: 41-42), while Ogden and Richards’s semiotic triangle model shows an indirect relationship between things and words that denote them – a symbol or a word symbolizes a thought or a reference, which refers to an extralinguistic thing, also called the referent (Ibid., 43). In Bühler’s organon model, a sign is a tool which is used not only to represent an object, but also to link it with the the speaker/sender and the hearer/addressee (Ibid., 44). Not all linguistic signs are words, morphemes are the smallest linguistic signs (Ibid., 68).

Complex words, for example *blackboard* or *crystallize*, are made up of more than one morpheme (Lieber 2009: 4). Simple words like *giraffe* or *yellow* are morphemes, but so are prefixes such as *re-* and *pre-* and suffixes like *-ize* and *-er* (Ibid., 3-4). Words consisting of only one morpheme are called monomorphemic and cannot be decomposed into smaller meaningful units (Plag 2002: 13).

Morphemes which can stand alone as words are called free morphemes (Lieber 2009: 33). Bound morphemes cannot stand alone and only occur if attached to some other morpheme(s) (Ibid., 33). Some bound morphemes have fixed positions, for example *un-* must always be attached before the so-called root or base (before the central meaningful element of the word), whereas other bound morphemes, such as *-ity*, *-ness*, or *-less*, must follow the base (Plag 2002: 13). Prefixes and suffixes are bound morphemes that come before or after the base, respectively; affix is the cover term for all bound morphemes that attach to bases (Ibid., 13).

Plag says that the part of a word to which an affix is attached is called the base, while he uses the term root to refer to bases that cannot be further divided into morphemes (Plag 2002: 13). The term root is used to explicitly refer to the indivisible central part of a complex word (Ibid., 14). In cases where the status of a form as indivisible is undisputed, we can speak of bases or base-words (Ibid., 14).

Derivation is the process of forming new lexemes by adding prefixes and suffixes to a base (Lieber 2009: 33). Words created in this way are referred to as derivatives or derived words (Plag 2002: 14). The base is the semantic core of the word to which the prefixes and suffixes attach; it is often a free morpheme (Lieber 2009: 33).

Earlier, we defined affixes as bound morphemes that attach to bases. However, there is a distinction between affixes and bound bases (Lieber 2009: 33). Bound bases cannot stand alone as words, but they are not affixes (Ibid., 33). Considering Lieber's examples of the words *pathology*, *psychopath*, *dermatitis* and *endoderm* – morphemes such as *path* or *derm* can occur either before or after another bound base (Ibid., 33). There are no affixes which sometimes precede its base and sometimes follow it, which suggests that *path* and *derm* are not prefixes or suffixes (Ibid., 33). However, many bound bases have relatively fixed positions, for example: *psych(o)-* or *endo-* always precedes another base while *-ology* or *-itis* always follows (Ibid., 33).

One difference between bound bases and affixes is that prefixes and suffixes tend to occur more freely (Lieber 2009: 34). For example, the negative prefix *un-* can be added to any number of adjectives, but there are far fewer words with the bound base *psych(o)* (Ibid., 34). However, this is not the most reliable way to distinguish between bound bases and affixes, because there are a few bound bases – *-ology* is one of them – that occur with great freedom, and there are some prefixes and suffixes that don't occur very often – for example, the *-th* in *width* or *health* (Ibid., 34).

Another reason to separate bound bases from affixes is that they seem to have far more substantial meanings than the average affix (Lieber 2009: 33). Whereas a prefix like *un-* (unhappy, unwise) simply means 'not' and the suffix *-ish* (reddish, warmish) means 'sort of', *psych(o)* means 'having to do with the mind', *-logy* means 'the study of', *path* means 'sickness', *derm* means 'skin' and *-itis* means 'disease' (Ibid., 34). Semantically, bound bases can form the core of a word, just as free morphemes can – the criterion of 'semantic robustness' (Ibid., 34).

Besides the confusion between affixes and bound bases, we may sometimes find it hard to distinguish between a bound morpheme and a free morpheme (Plag 2002: 90). In words like *error-free* or *prison-like*, we may at first think of *-free* and *-like* as suffixes (Ibid.,

91). However, if we paraphrase them as *free of error(s)* and *like a prison* respectively, we will realize that both occurrences of the words *free* are the same lexical item and not two different ones (a suffix and a free form), and therefore *error-free* should be regarded as a compound, the same being true for *prison-like* (Ibid., 90-91).

In contrast, the morpheme *-less* in words like *careless* or *flawless* means ‘without’ and therefore has a different meaning from the free morpheme *less*, the opposite of *more* (Ibid., 91). In this case, there are two homographic morphemes – a suffix and a free morpheme, which also differ in syntactic category, *-less* creating adjectives and *less* being an adverb (Ibid., 91).

2. Inflection and derivation

There are various different ways of creating new words based on already existing ones, addition or subtraction of phonetic or orthographic material being among them (Plag 2002: 17). According to Plag, the study of word-formation can thus be defined as the study of how new complex words are built based on other words or morphemes (Ibid., 17). However, this definition might raise a problem – it would, for example, suggest that all nouns with the plural suffix *-s* should be counted as new words (Ibid., 18).

Traditionally, a distinction has been made between inflection (conjugation and declension in traditional grammar) as part of the grammar, and derivation and compounding as part of word-formation (or rather lexeme formation) (Ibid., 18).

Suffixes like participial *-ing*, plural *-s*, or third person singular *-s* create new word-forms, i.e., grammatical words, but they do not create new lexemes (Ibid., 19). Inflectional morphemes encode grammatical categories such as plural (workers), person (works), tense (picked), or case (John’s) (Ibid., 19). These categories are relevant for the building of sentences and are referred to by grammar – for example, subject-verb agreement is a grammatical rule in English that demands that a third-person singular subject be followed by a verb marked as the third person singular (Ibid., 19). There is a similar demand for plural marking in sentences (Ibid., 19).

In contrast, suffixes like *-er* and *-ee* (both attached to verbs, as in *worker* or *employee*), or prefixes like *re-* or *un-* (as in *rephrase* or *unconvincing*) do form new lexemes (Ibid., 18-19). Even though one might argue that the suffix *-er* in *worker* is syntactically relevant

because it is important for the syntax whether a word is a noun or a verb, it is not relevant for the syntax whether the noun ends for example in *-er*, *-ee*, *-ion*, or whether the noun is morphologically complex at all. In that sense, derivational suffixes are not relevant for the syntax (Ibid., 19).

In English, derivational morphemes can occur either at the beginning or at the end of the base words, while regular inflection is always expressed by suffixes (Plag 2002: 19). There is no inflectional prefix in English. Irregular inflection uses non-affixational means, for example, in *mouse - mice* or *sing - sang* (Ibid., 19).

Furthermore, inflectional morphemes always occur outside derivational morphemes – they prevent the word from further (derivational) affixation. However, derivational suffixes can occur inside other derivational suffixes, examples being derivatives like *untruthful-ness* or *dis-establish-ment-arian-ism*. (Ibid., 19-20)

Another interesting difference concerns the part of speech. Derivational suffixes might change the part of speech of the base word (Ibid., 20). For example, the suffix *-less* makes an adjective out of a noun, the suffix *-ity* makes a noun out of an adjective, and the suffix *-ize* turns an adjective into a verb (Ibid., 20). On the other hand, the inflectional suffixes do not change the category of the base word – a plural marker on a noun or a past tense marker on a verb do not change the category (Ibid., 20). However, not all derivational affixes are category-changing; most prefixes do not change the part of speech (for example in *decolonialize* or *non-issue*), nor does the nominal suffix *-ism*, which can attach to nouns to form nouns (for example *terrorism*) (Ibid., 20).

Another property called semantic opacity, which is often found in derivation but hardly ever in inflection, can be exemplified by the derived word *interview* (Ibid., 20). If we consider the meaning of *interview* and the meaning of the ingredient morphemes *inter-* and *view*, we can see that the meaning of *interview* is not the sum of the meaning of its parts (Ibid., 20). The meaning of *inter-* can be paraphrased as ‘between’, that of (the verb) *view* as ‘look at something,’ whereas the meaning of *interview* is ‘to ask someone questions, especially in a formal meeting’ (Ibid., 20). The meaning of the derived word cannot be inferred based on its constituent morphemes, which means that it is to some extent opaque or non-transparent (Ibid., 20). “Non-transparent formations are quite common in derivational morphology, but rare in inflection. Closely related to this

generalization is the fact that inflectional categories tend to be fully productive, whereas derivational categories often show strong restrictions as to the kinds of possible combinations.” (Plag 2002: 20)

A productive morpheme can be attached regularly to any word of the appropriate class (Plag 2002: 21). For example, a morpheme expressing past tense can occur on all regular main verbs; similarly, a morpheme expressing plural on nouns can be fully productive because all count nouns can take plural endings in English – the ‘appropriate class’ here is the class of count nouns; non-count nouns (such as rice and milk) regularly do not take a plural (Ibid., 21). Some plural endings might be irregular, (for example *ox-en*), but the fact remains that plural morphology is fully productive (Ibid., 21). In contrast, not all verbs take, for example, the adjectival suffix *-ive*, nor do all count nouns take, say, the adjectival suffix *-al* (Ibid., 21).

3. Affixation

3.1. Prefixes and suffixes

Prefixes and suffixes usually have unique requirements and attach only to specific sorts of bases (Lieber 2009: 35). Some of these requirements might concern the phonology or the semantics of their bases, but the most basic requirements are often the syntactic part of speech or the category of their bases (Ibid., 35). For example, the prefix *un-* attaches to adjectives (where it means ‘not’ – such as unhappy or uncommon) and to verbs (where it means ‘reverse action’ – such as untie or undress), but not to nouns. (Ibid., 35).

Earlier, we made the distinction between affixes and bound bases according to semantic robustness. Some affixes do not add much meaning, Lieber gives the following examples:

-ment agreement, placement, advancement

-al refusal, arousal, disposal

-ity purity, density, complexity

-ness happiness, sadness, thickness

(Lieber 2009: 39)

These suffixes do not seem to carry much meaning of their own beyond turning verbs and adjectives into nouns with meanings like ‘process of X-ing’, ‘result of X-ing’ or ‘the abstract quality of X’, with X representing the base (Lieber 2009: 39). Affixes like these, whose primary function is to change the category of their base without adding any extra meaning, are sometimes called transpositional affixes (Ibid., 39)-

Lieber contrasts them with these examples:

-ee employee, recruitee, deportee

-less shoeless, treeless, rainless

re- reheat, reread, rewash

These affixes seem to have more of a meaning: *-ee* on a verb indicates a person who undergoes an action; *-less* means ‘without’; and *re-* means ‘again’ (Ibid., 39).

Many languages have common semantic categories for sorting affixes. Some of those categories mentioned by Lieber are:

- ‘Personal affixes which create ‘people nouns’ from verbs or nouns (Lieber 2009: 40). Lieber’s examples in English are the suffix *-er* which forms agent nouns (the ‘doer’ of the action) like writer or runner, and the suffix *-ee* which forms so called patient nouns (the recipient of the action), some of which are mentioned above (Ibid., 40).
- Negative and privative affixes – negative affixes add the meaning ‘not’ to their base; for example, the prefixes *un-*, *in-*, and *non-* (unhappy, inattentive, non-functional), while privative affixes mean something like ‘without X’; for example, the suffix *-less* (shoeless, hopeless) or the prefix *de-* (debug, debone) (Ibid., 40).
- Prepositional and relational affixes often convey notions of space and time. Examples in English are prefixes like *over-* and *out-* (overflow, overcoat, outrun, outhouse) (Ibid., 40).
- Quantitative affixes are related to the number or amount. In English, there are affixes like *-ful* (handful, helpful), *multi-* (multifaceted), or *re-*, which means action being repeated (reread) (Ibid., 40).

- Evaluative affixes include diminutives and augmentatives, which signal a smaller and a bigger version of the base respectively (Ibid., 40). The suffix *-let* as in *booklet* or *droplet* is an example of a diminutive affix in English. The closest thing to augmentatives that exist in English are prefixes like *mega-* (*megastore*, *megabyte*) (Ibid., 40). Diminutives and augmentatives might also carry additional meaning – diminutives are often used to convey endearment, while augmentatives sometimes have pejorative overtones (Ibid., 40).

Semantically contentful affixes may or may not change the syntactic category (Ibid., 40). For example, the suffixes *-er* and *-ee* change verbs to nouns, and the prefix *de-* changes nouns to verbs, while suffixes like *-hood* or *-dom* (*childhood*, *kingdom*) do not, and prefixes in English generally do not change syntactic category (Ibid., 40).

The change of category during derivation might be called nominalisation, adjectivalisation and verbalisation when the derived word becomes a noun, an adjective, or a verb respectively (Huddleston, Bauer, Pallum 2002: 1667). The derived word can also be called de-adjectival, deverbal or denominal, according to the category of the word it was derived from (Ibid., 1667). For example, the process of creating the noun *wetness* from adding the suffix *-ness* to the adjective *wet* is a case of de-adjectival nominalisation, while adding the suffix *-ise* to the word *terror* to form *terrorise* creates a denominal verb by the process of verbalisation. (Ibid., 1667)

Not only single words, but also phrases can be nominalised or adjectivalised – for example with the suffix *-ed* to create adjectives such as *two-faced* – words formed in this way can be called dephrasal. (Ibid., 1667)

Sometimes derivation brings a change between subclasses within the same primary category – for example, a concrete count noun *star* becomes an abstract non-count noun *stardom* by adding the suffix *-dom*. (Ibid., 1667)

Affixation may or may not change the pronunciation or shape of the base word. There is no change in words with prefixes such as *decontextualize* and *reorganize*, or words with phonologically neutral suffixes such as *managerless* or *openmindedness* (Plag 2002: 98-99).

In contrast, Plag uses many examples including the words *feminize*, *employee*, *selectivity*, *hinderance* and *hindering* to demonstrate different changes to base words caused by attaching suffixes (Ibid., 99-100). The base word *feminine* loses two sounds when *-ize*

attaches (Ibid., 99) The suffixes *-ee* and *-ity* affect the stress pattern of their base words – the suffix *-ity* shifts the primary stress of the base to the syllable immediately preceding the suffix, while the suffix *-ee* attracts the stress to itself (Ibid., 99). The attachment of the suffix *-ing* to the word *hinder* leads to the addition of a syllable which consists of the base-final [r] and the suffix, with the vowel of the last syllable of the base staying unchanged (Ibid., 100). On the other hand, the suffix *-ance* triggers the deletion of the last base vowel and the formation of a consonant-cluster immediately preceding the suffix, which has the effect that the derivatives have as many syllables as the base, as opposed to *-ing* which creates a one syllable longer word (Ibid., 100).

In general, suffixes starting with a vowel have a strong tendency to trigger alternations, whereas suffixes starting with a consonant have a strong tendency not to trigger alternations. An example of an exception is the suffix *-ish* (Ibid., 101).

3.1.1 Classification of suffixes

Suffixes may be divided into categories based on the category of the derived word (Plag 2002: 108).

- Nominal suffixes often derive abstract nouns from verbs, adjectives and nouns; they often denote properties, qualities, actions and results of actions (Ibid., 109). They also quite often derive person nouns (Ibid., 109).

Examples: *-age* (coverage, voltage), *-al* (arrival, renewal) (Ibid., 109), *-ance/ence/ancy/ency* (riddance, dependency), *-ant* (applicant, dispersant), *-cy/ce* (adequacy, emergence) (Ibid., 110), *-dom* (kingdom, apedom), *-ee* (employee, amputee), *-eer* (mountaineer) (Ibid., 111), *-er/or* (teacher, toaster, diner, conductor), *-(e)ry* (bakery) (Ibid., 112), *-ess* (princess), *-ful* (handful), *-hood* (adulthood), *-ian* (historian, Anglican) (Ibid., 113), *-ing* (building), *-ion/ation* (hyphenation, starvation), *-ism* (revisionism) (Ibid., 114), *-ist* (minimalist), *-ity* (curiosity) (Ibid., 115), *-ment* (endorsement), *-ship* (friendship) (Ibid. 116)

- Verbal suffixes derive verbs from other categories, mostly from adjective and nouns (Ibid., 116).

There are four of them: *-ate* (fluorinate, methanate) (Ibid., 116), *-en* (broaden, strengthen), *-ify* (solidify, humidify) (Ibid., 117), *-ize* (hospitalize, memorize) (Ibid., 118)

- Adjectival suffixes can be divided into two groups: relational adjectives, which express a relation to a noun, and qualitative which express more specific concepts (Ibid., 118).
Examples: -able (fashionable, variable, marriageable), -al (accidental, colonial) (Ibid., 119), -ary (legendary, complementary), -ed (broad-minded), -ful (beautiful, forgetful), -ic/ical (electric, electrical) (Ibid., 120), -ing (boring), -ish (childish, fourteenish, townish), -ive (explosive massive) (Ibid., 121), -less (hopeless), -ly (womanly, daily), -ous (curious, prestigious, ambiguous) (Ibid., 122)
- Adverbial suffixes, examples: -ly (shortly, coldly), -wise (lengthwise, food-wise) (Ibid., 123)

3.2. Other types of affixes

Prefixes and suffixes are affixes that go before or after a base respectively. However, these are not the only positions in which affixes can occur. (Lieber 2009: 76)

In the literature on morphology, we sometimes find references to other types of affixes, such as infixes, interfixes, circumfixes, simulfixes or transfixes. (Ibid., 79)

3.2.1 Infixes

„Infixes are affixes that are inserted right into a root or base.“ (Ibid., 76)

For example, in Tagalog (Malayo-Polynesian language spoken in the Philippines), verbs with meaning ‚become X‘ may be formed by inserting the morpheme *-um-* after the first consonant of the root (Ibid., 76-77).

<i>ganda</i>	beauty
<i>gumanda</i>	become beautiful
<i>hirap</i>	difficulty
<i>humirap</i>	become difficult

(Ibid., 77)

There are no productive processes of infixation in English, but there is one process that comes close, which is referred to as “*fuckin*” infixation or expletive insertion (Lieber 2009: 77; Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 413). In colloquial spoken English, we might take a word such as *fucking*, *goddam*, or *frigging* in American English, or *bloody* in British English – and insert it into a base word:

abso-fuckin-lutely

fan-bloody-tastic

Ala-friggin'-bama

(Lieber 2009: 77)

This infixation is used for emphasis – to strengthen a word (Ibid., 77). An interesting fact is that we cannot insert *fuckin* just anywhere in a word, but there are phonological and morphological restrictions on the insertion of expletives (Ibid., 77-78).

Expletive infixation may be excluded from word-formation by some, who might say that this process does not produce new distinct words or word forms due to the core meaning of the base word staying unchanged (Plag 2002: 129). However, others argue that the expression of the speaker’s attitude is a new meaning being added, and they compare expletive infixation to diminutives and augmentatives, which are considered distinct words produced by word-formation, even though they might sometimes be used only to express speaker’s attitude – for example the word *doggy* being used for dogs for emotional reasons, regardless of their size (Ibid., 129-130).

3.2.2 Interfixes

Interfixes are also known as linking elements. (Lieber 2009: 46) They appear inside compounds, and their sole purpose is to link bound bases together – they do not add any meaning of their own. (Ibid., 46)

We can look at an example found in Latin, where *-i-* serves as a linking element:

capra goat

ficus fig

caprificus goat fig (wild fig)

(Ibid., 46)

3.2.3 Circumfixes

A circumfix consists of two parts – a new lexeme is created from a base by adding a prefix and a suffix together, neither of which can create that type of lexeme by itself (Lieber 2009: 78). A phenomenon in which the simultaneous presence of two morphemes signals a particular morphological category is called parasynthesis. (Ibid., 78).

Lieber gives an example from Dutch, where the affixes *ge-* and *-te* are added to a base to form a collective noun from a count noun:

<i>berg</i>	mountain
<i>gebergte</i>	mountain chain
<i>vogel</i>	bird
<i>gevogelte</i>	flock of birds

(Ibid., 78)

Neither *geberg* nor *bergte* are words, both parts of the circumfix are needed to signal the collective meaning (Ibid., 78).

3.2.4. Simulfixes

Internal stem changes might sometimes be called simulfixes or apophony (Lieber 2009: 79). This type of lexeme formation involves changing the quality of a vowel or consonant inside the base – sometimes along with affixation. (Ibid., 79).

As pointed out by Lieber, an example of this process can be found in the Manchu language where female equivalents are formed from male nouns by turning back vowels into front vowels (Ibid., 79).

<i>haha</i>	man
<i>hehe</i>	woman
<i>amila</i>	cock
<i>emile</i>	hen

(Ibid., 79)

Consonant mutation was shown by Lieber using examples from the Chemehuevi language, where reflexive verbs are created by replacing initial stop consonants (such as *p*, *t* or *k*) with a voiced continuant (such as *v* or *r*) and adding the prefix *na-* (Ibid., 80).

punikai see
navunika see (reflexive)
tika eat
narika eat (reflexive)

(Ibid., 80)

3.2.5 Transfixes

What might sometimes be referred to as transfixes, is also called templatic morphology or root and pattern morphology. (Lieber 2009: 79, 82) The root carries the core meaning, and other letters are added to form patterns with additional meanings (Ibid., 82). This morphology is typical for Semitic languages such as Arabic or Hebrew. (Ibid., 82)

To illustrate this, Lieber listed a few words in the Arabic language:

katab wrote
kattab caused to write
kaatab corresponded, wrote to each other
ktatab wrote, copied
kutib was written (perfective passive)

(Ibid., 81)

All these words share the root *ktb* and have a meaning related to writing – we can notice that the active verb forms all have the vowel *a* in them, while the passive verb form contains the vowels *u* and *i* instead (Ibid., 82). The different patterns of vowels and consonants add their own meanings – the CVCCVC pattern adds a causative meaning, while the CVVCVC pattern signifies reciprocity (Ibid., 82).

4. The suffix *-ly*

The suffix *-ly* can be used to create both adjectives and adverbs. It is usually added to nouns and noun phrases when forming adjectives (Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 304). It can also be added to some adjectives, to form words such as *deadly* or *goodly*.

It belongs between so called non-cohering or neutral suffixes, which means that it does not change the stress position of the the word (Štekauer, Lieber 2005: 29).

The adjectival suffix *-ly* (among other suffixes such as *-al*, *-ic* or *-ous*) appears to add no specific meaning other than what would be attributed to the derivative's categorial status as an adjective (Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 314).

When added to a base represented by X, the meaning of the derivative is usually something like 'in the manner of X,' 'characteristic of X' or 'like an X' (Plag 2002: 122). It is often added to base nouns denoting persons (such as *brotherly*, *fatherly* or *womanly*), temporal concepts (such as *half-hourly*, *daily*, *weekly*, *monthly*) or directions (such as *easterly* or *southwesterly*) (Ibid., 122).

It is a native suffix (among others such as *-ful*, *-ish* or *-en*), as opposed to Latinate suffixes (such as *-al*, *-ous* or *-esque*) (Štekauer, Lieber 2005: 416)

Adjectival suffix *-ly* is barely productive. (Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 306) When used to coin new words, it is often used on bases which denote humans: *actorly*, *dancerly*, *designerly*, *readerly*, *speakerly*, *writerly*. (Ibid., 33)

It has not been very productive since the the 19th century, and that it has been replaced by *-like*. (Huddleston, Bauer, Pallum 2002: 1711)

However, the suffix *-ly* overall is one of the most productive suffixes in English; it can be added to most adjectives to form a corresponding adverb (Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 323). Historically, the adverbial suffix *-ly* appears to be the same form as the adjective-forming suffix *-ly*. (Ibid., 323)

The adjectival suffix *-ly* generally does not allow the adverbial suffix *-ly* to be added, although such words rarely occur (Ibid., 325). Another unlikely combination of *-ly* is with adjectives ending in *-y* with bases ending in *l*, such as *oily* or *curly*. (Ibid., 325)

Unlike adjectives, adverbs ending in *-ly* usually do not take the synthetic degree variants using *-er* and *-est*, among rare exception being archaic forms such as *boldier* or *quicklier* (Ibid., 108). Instead, we will usually see so-called periphrastic comparative and superlative forms, such as *more boldly* or *most gently* (Ibid., 108). However, they can occur both on adjectives that end in *-ly* (*likelier, likeliest*) or on other adverbs (*sooner, soonest*) (Ibid., 323).

Some *-ly* adverbs have unsuffixed variants, for example *easy – easily, loud – loudly, quick – quickly* (Ibid., 108). Bauer et al. say that according to Palmer et al., in the positive degree the suffixed adverb forms seem to be more frequent (for example talk loudly rather than talk loud), while in the comparative and superlative degree the synthetic variant of the unsuffixed adverb is often more common (talk louder rather than talk more loudly) (Ibid., 108).

The fact that the *-ly* affix in adverbs is not followed by any other affixes, either derivational or inflectional, is sometimes compared to the characteristic of inflectional endings which also do not allow further affixation in English (Ibid., 323).

When used as an adverbial suffix, *-ly* is added exclusively to adjectives (Plag 2002: 123). It is for the most part syntactically triggered and obligatory, which is another reason why *-ly* adverbs have been treated as inflectional variants of adjectives by some (Ibid., 123).

However, there is sometimes a difference in meaning between the adjective and the adverb derived from it by adding the suffix *-ly* – for example, words like *shortly, hardly, dryly, hotly* or *coldly* have a meaning different from their base adjective, often a metaphorical meaning (Ibid., 123). Such shifts in meaning would be unexpected for an inflectional suffix, which speaks against the idea of classifying adverbial *-ly* as an inflectional suffix (Ibid., 123).

Moreover, other affixes that are highly productive and semantically transparent (such as *-ness*) that are never claimed to be inflectional (Bauer, Lieber, Plag 2013: 323).

Adverbs created with the use of the suffix *-ly* may also be, along with their adjectives, divided into qualitative (*shortly, fiercely, quietly*) and relational (*geographically, architecturally*) (Ibid., 104).

5. Investigating affixes

Large dictionaries and computerised corpora can be used to investigate the properties of derived words and the affixes used to derive them (Plag 2002: 93).

Reverse dictionaries such as Walker (1924), Lehnert (1971), or Muthmann (1999) list words in alphabetical order according to their spelling from right to left, so that words ending in *a* come first, those ending in *z* come last – for example, *sofa* is among the first words in reverse dictionaries, while the word *fuzz* is among the last (Ibid., 93). This kind of organisation is very convenient for the study of suffixes, whereas when it comes to investigating prefixes, any large dictionary will be useful. (Ibid., 93).

The reverse dictionary by Muthmann (1999) is very convenient for morphological research because it groups words according to their pronunciation or morphology instead of listing them in strictly orthographical order (Ibid., 93-94). For example, if one is looking for words with the suffix *-ion*, the relevant words can be found in one subsection with no non-pertinent words intervening – words ending in the same string of letters, such as *lion*, are found in a different subsection and do not spoil the list of words with the suffix *-ion* (Ibid., 94). This kind of dictionary is useful for the analysis of word-formation patterns, but it has the disadvantage of only containing wordforms, without any additional information on these forms such as their meaning, first attestations or usage (Ibid., 94).

Practical part

6. Methodology

I was trying to find the frequency of the adverbial and adjectival suffix *-ly*. My research was corpus-based. I used 50% sample version of the British Web Corpus (ukWaC) and the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), both of which use around one billion words. I chose them because of their size being quite large, and also similar to each other.

COCA was created by Mark Davies. It uses many types of evenly balanced sources, such as blogs and websites, multiple sections of newspapers, magazines of various topics, fiction books, movie scripts, academic journals, and unscripted spoken conversations from TV and radio. In November 2021, the corpus consisted of one billion words from 485 202 texts, and it is still growing. (Wikipedia; Corpus of Contemporary American English)

UkWaC was created by Adriano Ferraresi based on the .uk domain, with the help of the British National Corpus. Its sources might contain other variants of English as long as they are from the .uk domain, but it is considered to be a corpus of mainly British English. (Sketch Engine; UkWaC – British Web corpus from the .uk domain). It contains around two billion words, but I used the 50% sample version which searches among around one billion words.

I started by finding adverbs and adjectives ending with letters *ly* respectively by searching “*ly_r” and “*ly_j” in the American corpus, while in the British corpus I typed “*ly_RB” and “*ly_JJ” to find adverbs and adjectives respectively. The “*” stands for any number of arbitrary characters, while “ly” are the last two letters the words have to contain. “_r,” “_j,” “_RB” and “_JJ” restrict the results shown to either adjectives or adverbs only.

When I searched for a list of words ending with the letters *ly*, the Corpus of Contemporary American English found 10 936 291 adverbs out of which 14 698 were unique, and 1 178 260 adjectives, out of which 7 045 were unique, while the 50% sample of ukWaC found 10 226 406 instances of adverbs and 1 178 541 instances of adjectives.

However, not all words ending with the letters *ly* were created by adding the suffix *-ly*. When listing the most frequent words I found in both corpora, I excluded many adjectives formed using the suffix *-y*, for example *oily*, *curly* or *smelly*, and a few other words such as *silly*, *jolly*, *burly*, *no-fly* or *single-family*.

I also decided not to count in compound hyphenated adjectives containing the adverb *only*, such as *members-only* or *abstinence-only*, even though I found over 14 000 instances of them in both corpora combined.

However, I decided to include hyphenated compound adjectives created from the adjective *friendly* (such as *user-friendly* or *eco-friendly*), the most common of which are listed below separately as distinct words, with the rest of them being counted together under the name “*x-FRIENDLY*.”

7. Findings

In both corpora, *only* is the most common *-ly* ending adverb, followed by the word *really*. The adjective *only* is the most common in the American corpus, followed by the word *early*, in the British corpus we can see the same top two adjectives, but in the opposite order.

The rest of the top ten American *-ly* ending adverbs are the words: *actually*, *probably*, *especially*, *finally*, *simply*, *exactly* and *certainly*, in this order, while in the British corpus we find the words *currently*, *particularly*, *usually*, *probably*, *especially*, *actually*, *simply* and *recently*, in this order. The top ten adjectives contain the words *daily*, *weekly*, *monthly*, *friendly*, *lovely*, and *elderly* in different orders in both corpora, *lively* and *quarterly* are the remaining two of the top ten *-ly* adjectives in the British corpus, while in the American corpus it is the words *deadly* and *ugly*. (Table 1, 2)

If we add up the twenty most common adjectives and adverbs ending with the suffix *-ly* found in each corpus, we find 4 429 805 adverbs and 796 644 adjectives in COCA, and 3 757 088 adverbs and 856 815 adjectives in UkWaC. (Table 1, 2)

Twenty most common *-ly* adverbs and adjectives in COCA and their sum.

	COCA			
	adverbs	4 429 805	adjectives	796 644
1	ONLY	905 097	ONLY	325 877
2	REALLY	895 916	EARLY	178 363
3	ACTUALLY	353 861	DAILY	61 095
4	PROBABLY	269 732	LOVELY	29 070
5	ESPECIALLY	186 075	FRIENDLY	27 548
6	FINALLY	181 243	UGLY	23 967
7	SIMPLY	166 558	WEEKLY	21 690
8	EXACTLY	162 663	ELDERLY	19 744
9	CERTAINLY	138 162	MONTHLY	19 414
10	NEARLY	138 033	DEADLY	17 527
11	RECENTLY	125 532	LONELY	17 067
12	USUALLY	123 303	COSTLY	11 069
13	QUICKLY	120 141	TIMELY	7 194
14	CLEARLY	105 966	LIVELY	6 797
15	PARTICULARLY	104 017	SCHOLARLY	6 758
16	COMPLETELY	103 940	BODILY	5 083
17	ABSOLUTELY	98 574	x-FRIENDLY	5 021
18	OBVIOUSLY	85 368	HEAVENLY	5 011
19	EARLY	84 142	ORDERLY	4 313
20	EVENTUALLY	81 482	YEARLY	4 036

Table 1

Twenty most common *-ly* adverbs and adjectives in UkWaC and their sum.

	UKWAC			
	adverbs	3 757 088	adjectives	629 016
1	ONLY	972 709	EARLY	227 799
2	REALLY	356 280	ONLY	208 987
3	CURRENTLY	200 589	FRIENDLY	69 883
4	PARTICULARLY	189 904	DAILY	66 466
5	USUALLY	170 631	MONTHLY	46 679
6	PROBABLY	166 819	LOVELY	46 546
7	ESPECIALLY	164 370	WEEKLY	46 446
8	ACTUALLY	159 551	ELDERLY	25 042
9	SIMPLY	159 167	LIVELY	18 189
10	RECENTLY	153 266	QUARTERLY	16 877
11	FULLY	131 885	TIMELY	11 496
12	DIRECTLY	112 427	COSTLY	10 317
13	FINALLY	111 448	LONELY	9 769
14	CLEARLY	110 945	UGLY	9 093
15	HIGHLY	109 042	DEADLY	8 808
16	GENERALLY	105 720	SCHOLARLY	8 553
17	CERTAINLY	101 196	YEARLY	8 294
18	EASILY	97 344	HEAVENLY	6 126
19	QUICKLY	95 041	HOURLY	6 007
20	NORMALLY	88 754	BODILY	5 438

Table 2

In COCA, the relative frequency of the adverb *only* is approximately 840.6 per one million words, followed by the word *really* with circa 832.1 per million. The adverb *actually* has relative frequency of 328.7, the adverb *probably* appears 250.5 times per a million words. The adverbs *especially*, *finally*, *simply* and *exactly* all have frequency below 180 and above 150 per one million words, the adverbs *certainly*, *nearly*, *recently*, *usually* and *quickly* are below 130 and above 110 per one million words. Relative frequency of the adverbs *clearly*, *particularly*, *completely* and *absolutely* is between 90 and 100 per a million words, the adverbs *early* and *eventually* show frequencies between 75 and 80 per one million words.

RELATIVE FREQUENCY (per 1 mil words)			
COCA			
ONLY	840,63	ONLY	302,67
REALLY	832,10	EARLY	165,66
ACTUALLY	328,66	DAILY	56,74
PROBABLY	250,52	LOVELY	27,00
ESPECIALLY	172,82	FRIENDLY	25,59
FINALLY	168,33	UGLY	22,26
SIMPLY	154,69	WEEKLY	20,15
EXACTLY	151,08	ELDERLY	18,34
CERTAINLY	128,32	MONTHLY	18,03
NEARLY	128,20	DEADLY	16,28
RECENTLY	116,59	LONELY	15,85
USUALLY	114,52	COSTLY	10,28
QUICKLY	111,58	TIMELY	6,68
CLEARLY	98,42	LIVELY	6,31
PARTICULARLY	96,61	SCHOLARLY	6,28
COMPLETELY	96,54	BODILY	4,72
ABSOLUTELY	91,55	*-FRIENDLY	4,66
OBVIOUSLY	79,29	HEAVENLY	4,65
EARLY	78,15	ORDERLY	4,01
EVENTUALLY	75,68	YEARLY	3,75

Table 3

The most common adjective in COCA – *only* – has relative frequency of 302.7 per one million words, which is less than the third most common adverb in the same corpus. Relative frequency of the adjective *early* is approximately 165.7 per a million words, the adjective *daily* appears only 56.7 per one million words. The adjectives *lovely*, *friendly*, *ugly* and *weekly* all appear between 20 and 30 times per one million words, while adjectives *elderly*, *monthly*, *deadly*, *lonely* and *costly* are below 20 and above 10 per one million words. The adjectives *timely*, *lively*, *scholarly*, *bodily*, *heavenly*, *orderly* and *yearly*, as well as the sum of multiple different compound hyphenated adjectives ending with the word *friendly* all have relative frequency between 3 and 7 per one million words.

In ukWaC, the adverb *only* has relative frequency of 863 per one million words, the adjective *really* appears 316.1 times per a million words. The adverbs *currently*, *particularly* and *usually* have relative frequency between 150 and 180 per one million words. Relative frequency of the adverbs *probably*, *especially*, *actually*, *simply*, *recently* and *fully* is below 150 and above 110 per one million words. The adverbs *directly*, *finally*, *clearly*, *highly*, *generally*, *certainly*, *easily*, *quickly* and *normally* all have relative frequency between 75 and 100 per one million words.

RELATIVE FREQUENCY (per 1 mil words)			
UKWAC			
ONLY	863,05	EARLY	202,12
REALLY	316,12	ONLY	185,43
CURRENTLY	177,98	FRIENDLY	62,00
PARTICULARLY	168,50	DAILY	58,97
USUALLY	151,40	MONTHLY	41,42
PROBABLY	148,01	LOVELY	41,30
ESPECIALLY	145,84	WEEKLY	41,21
ACTUALLY	141,56	ELDERLY	22,22
SIMPLY	141,22	LIVELY	16,14
RECENTLY	135,99	QUARTERLY	14,97
FULLY	117,02	TIMELY	10,20
DIRECTLY	99,75	COSTLY	9,15
FINALLY	98,88	LONELY	8,67
CLEARLY	98,44	UGLY	8,07
HIGHLY	96,75	DEADLY	7,82
GENERALLY	93,80	SCHOLARLY	7,59
CERTAINLY	89,79	YEARLY	7,36
EASILY	86,37	HEAVENLY	5,44
QUICKLY	84,33	HOURLY	5,33
NORMALLY	78,75	BODILY	4,82

Table 4

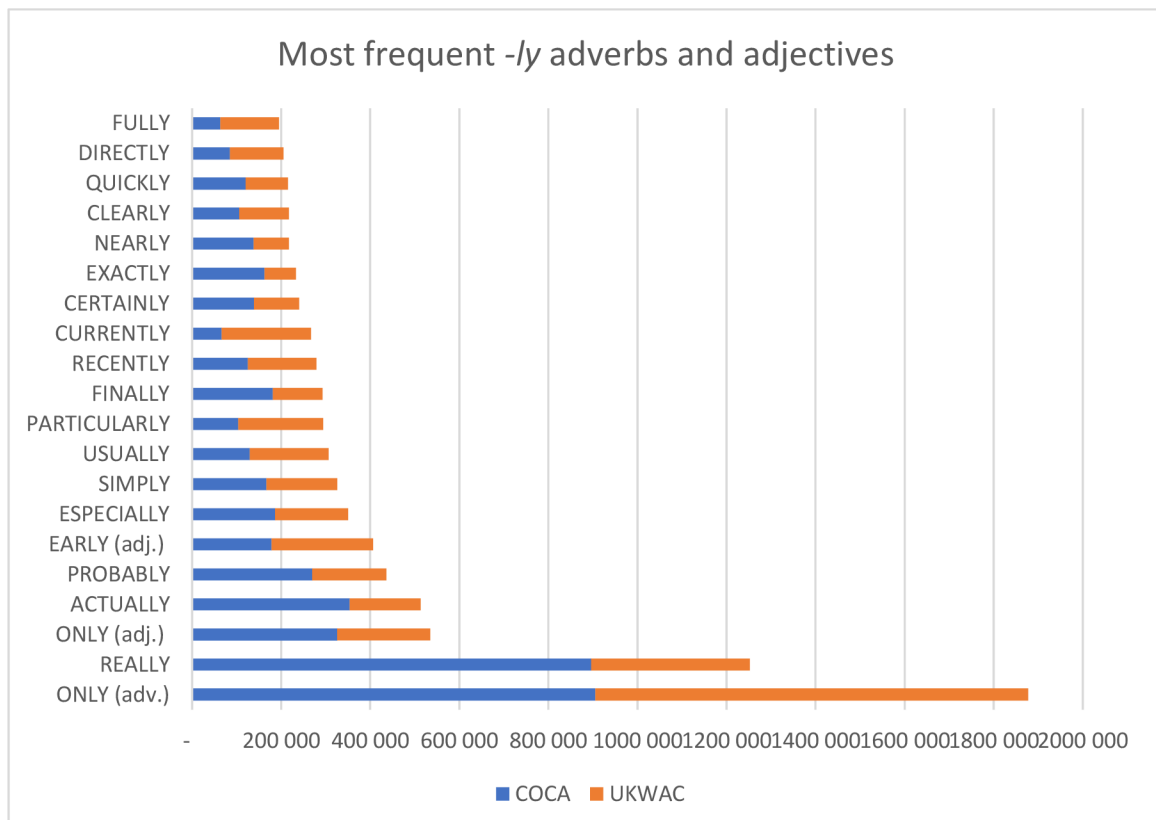
In ukWaC, the adjective *early* has relative frequency of 202.1 per one million words, followed by *only* with frequency around 185.4 per a million words. The adjective *friendly* appears 62 times per one million words, the adjective *daily* nearly 60 times per a million words. The adjectives *monthly*, *lovely*, *weekly* and *elderly* fall between 20 and 50 per one million words. The adjectives *lively*, *quarterly* and *timely* are below 20 and above 10 per a million words. The adjectives *costly*, *lonely*, *ugly*, *deadly*, *scholarly*, *yearly*, *heavenly*, *hourly* and *bodily* are of frequencies between 4 and 10 per one million words.

Out of twenty most common *-ly* adverbs and adjectives, *only* and *early* are the only two adjectives. They are highlighted in green in the table below, adverbs are yellow.

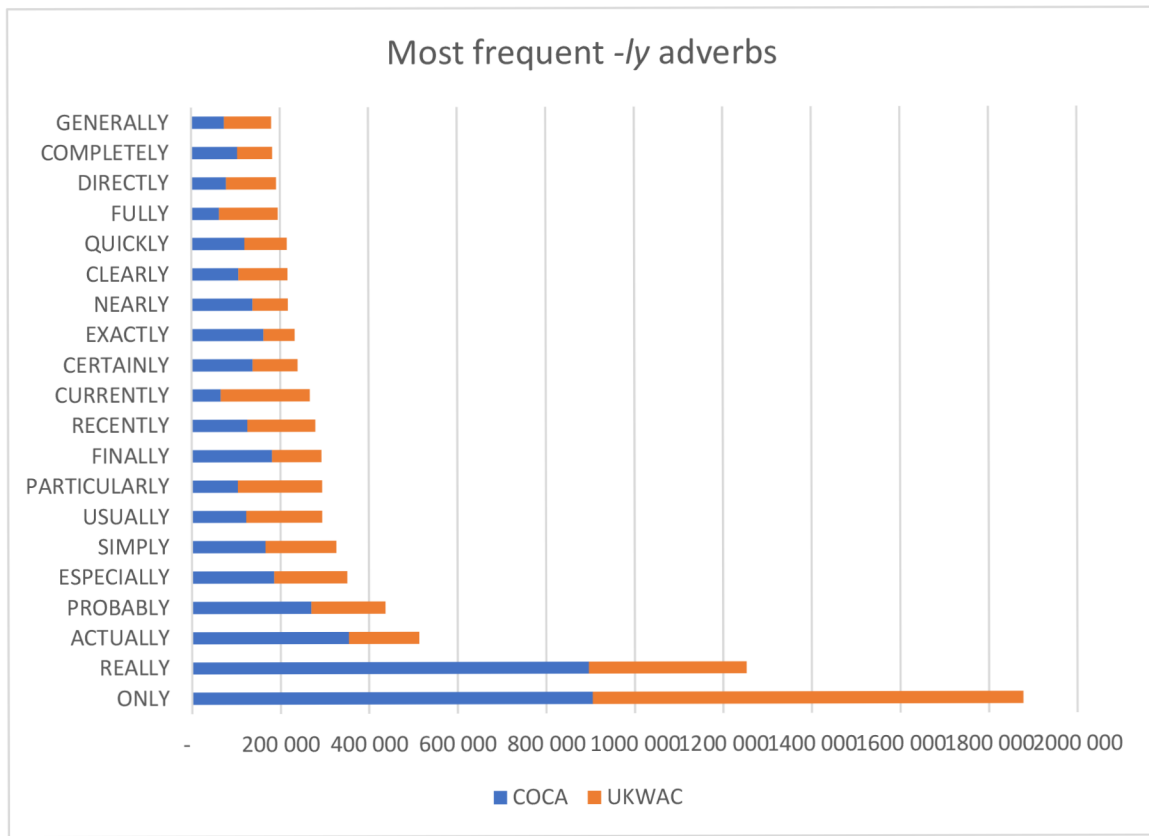
	coca		ukwac	
1	ONLY	905 097	ONLY	972 709
2	REALLY	895 916	REALLY	356 280
3	ACTUALLY	353 861	EARLY	227 799
4	ONLY	325 877	ONLY	208 987
5	PROBABLY	269 732	CURRENTLY	200 589
6	ESPECIALLY	186 075	PARTICULARLY	189 904
7	FINALLY	181 243	USUALLY	176 789
8	EARLY	178 363	PROBABLY	166 819
9	SIMPLY	166 558	ESPECIALLY	164 370
10	EXACTLY	162 663	ACTUALLY	159 551
11	CERTAINLY	138 865	SIMPLY	159 167
12	NEARLY	138 033	RECENTLY	153 266
13	USUALLY	129 412	FULLY	131 885
14	RECENTLY	125 532	DIRECTLY	120 121
15	QUICKLY	120 141	FINALLY	111 448
16	CLEARLY	105 966	CLEARLY	110 945
17	PARTICULARLY	104 017	HIGHLY	109 042
18	COMPLETELY	103 940	GENERALLY	105 720
19	ABSOLUTELY	98 574	CERTAINLY	101 406

Table 5

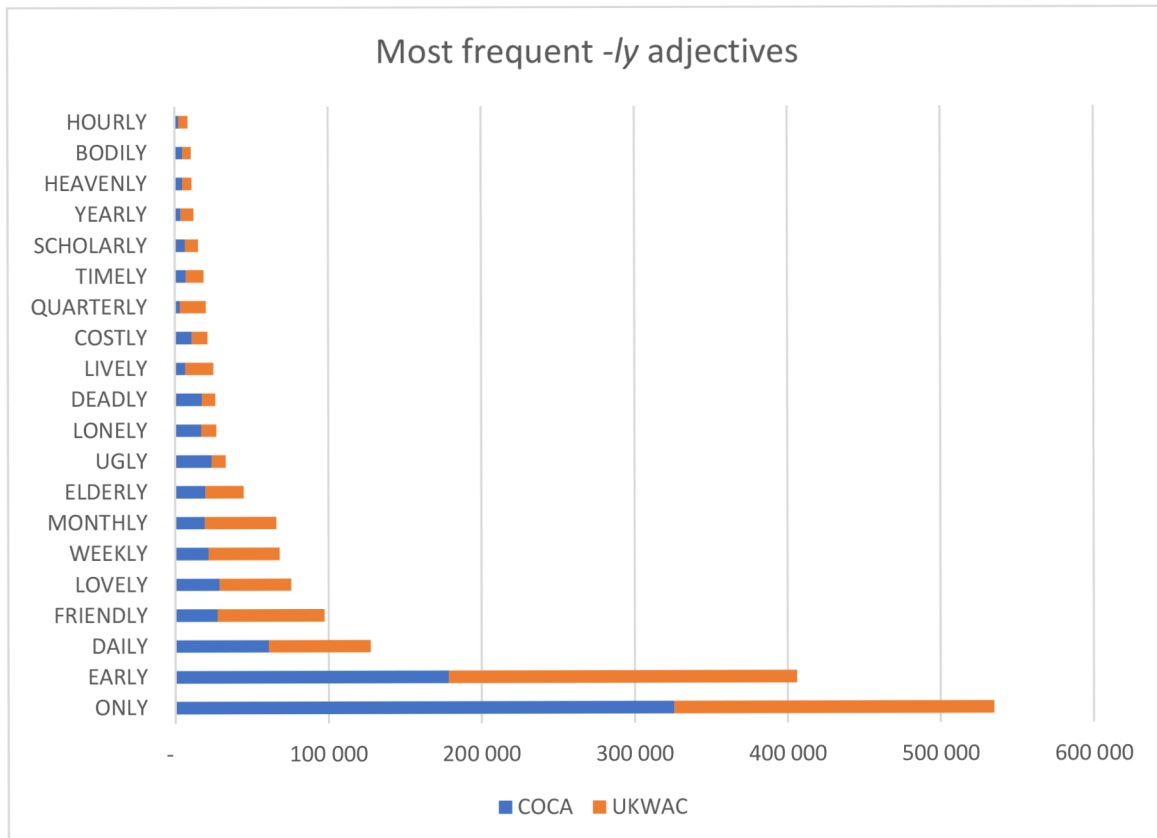
In the following graph (based on the Table 8) we can see twenty most frequent adverbs and adjectives with the suffix *-ly* in both corpora combined.



In this graph (based on the Table 6) we can see twenty most frequent *-ly* adverbs with the suffix *-ly* in both corpora combined.



In this graph (based on the Table 7) we can see twenty most frequent *-ly* adjectives with the suffix *-ly* in both corpora combined.



Twenty most common *-ly* adverbs, sorted by the sum of results from both corpora.

	COCA	UKWAC	sum
adverbs	4 363 327	3 690 418	8 053 745
ONLY	905 097	972 709	1 877 806
REALLY	895 916	356 280	1 252 196
ACTUALLY	353 861	159 551	513 412
PROBABLY	269 732	166 819	436 551
ESPECIALLY	186 075	164 370	350 445
SIMPLY	166 558	159 167	325 725
USUALLY	123 303	170 631	293 934
PARTICULARLY	104 017	189 904	293 921
FINALLY	181 243	111 448	292 691
RECENTLY	125 532	153 266	278 798
CURRENTLY	66 051	200 589	266 640
CERTAINLY	138 162	101 196	239 358
EXACTLY	162 663	70 223	232 886
NEARLY	138 033	79 296	217 329
CLEARLY	105 966	110 945	216 911
QUICKLY	120 141	95 041	215 182
FULLY	63 237	131 885	195 122
DIRECTLY	79 121	112 427	191 548
COMPLETELY	103 940	78 951	182 891
GENERALLY	74 679	105 720	180 399

Table 6

Twenty most common *-ly* adjectives, sorted by the sum of results from both corpora.

	COCA	UKWAC	sum
adjectives	793 198	856 815	1 650 013
ONLY	325 877	208 987	534 864
EARLY	178 363	227 799	406 162
DAILY	61 095	66 466	127 561
FRIENDLY	27 548	69 883	97 431
LOVELY	29 070	46 546	75 616
WEEKLY	21 690	46 446	68 136
MONTHLY	19 414	46 679	66 093
ELDERLY	19 744	25 042	44 786
UGLY	23 967	9 093	33 060
LONELY	17 067	9 769	26 836
DEADLY	17 527	8 808	26 335
LIVELY	6 797	18 189	24 986
COSTLY	11 069	10 317	21 386
QUARTERLY	3 392	16 877	20 269
TIMELY	7 194	11 496	18 690
SCHOLARLY	6 758	8 553	15 311
YEARLY	4 036	8 294	12 330
HEAVENLY	5 011	6 126	11 137
BODILY	5 083	5 438	10 521
HOURLY	2 496	6 007	8 503

Table 7

One hundred most common *-ly* adverbs add up to 7 693 884 in the American corpus and 7 099 245 in the British corpus, while the sum of one hundred most common *-ly* adjectives add up to only 863 466 and 930 065 in the American and the British corpus respectively. (Table 8, 9)

In the list of one hundred most common *-ly* ending adverbs and adjectives in both corpora combined, we can find only seven adjectives: *only*, *early*, *daily*, *friendly*, *lovely*, *weekly*, and *monthly*, with the remaining ninety-three of them being adverbs. This shows that the eighth most common adjective – *elderly*, is less frequent than the ninety-third most common adverb – *commonly*. (Table 8-10)

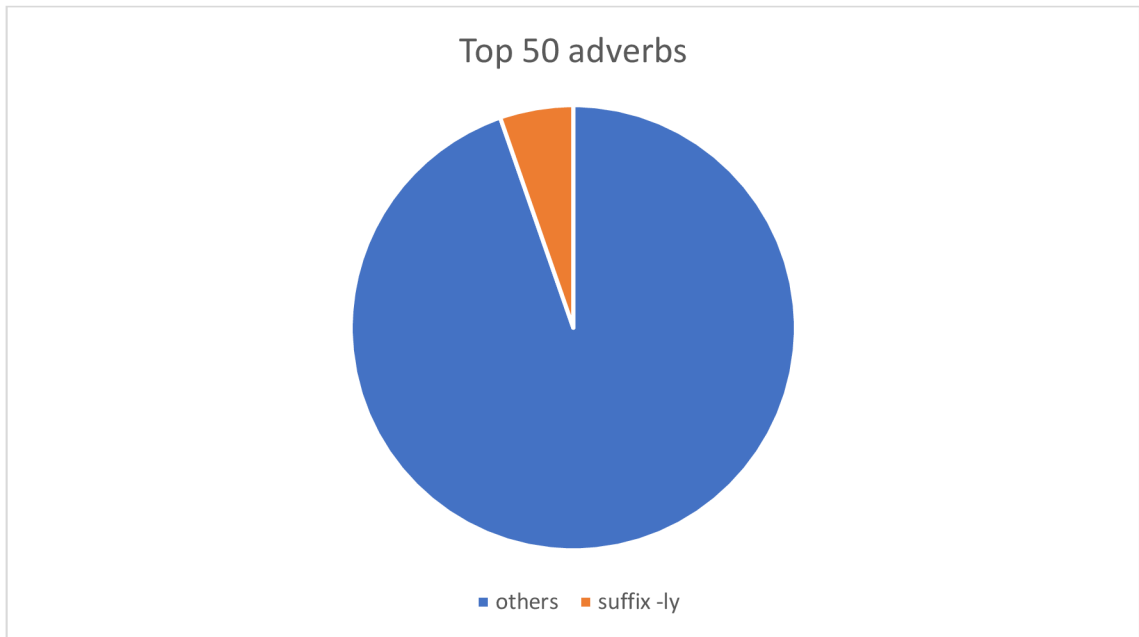
Out of twenty most common *-ly* ending adverbs and adjectives, there are only two adjectives – *only* and *early*. The former being fourth most common in both corpora, and the latter being third most frequent in the British corpus, but only eighth most frequent in the American corpus. (Table 5)

When I looked up lists of most frequent adverbs and most frequent adjectives in COCA, over six hundred adverbs but only nineteen adjectives ending with the letters *ly* appeared on the first, one-thousand-word long page of each list. However, some of these words may not contain the suffix *-ly*. I decided to look into the first five hundred words from each list.

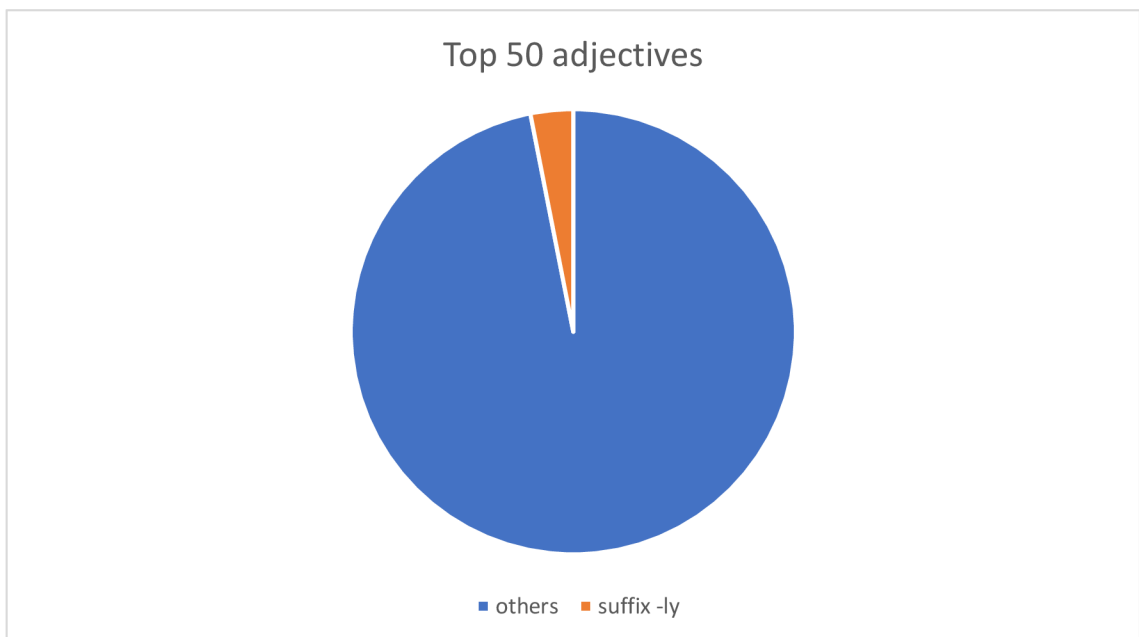
To my surprise, there were only seventeen adverbs with the suffix *-ly* within the first hundred most frequent adverbs, and only three in the top fifty. Understandably, a lot of the top one hundred adverbs were words such as *just*, *out*, *how*, *here*, *more*, *well*, *never*, *back*, *again*, *else*, *very*, *today*, and so on. Within the top two hundred, I found seventy-one *-ly* adverbs. In the whole five-hundred-word-long list, two hundred and eighty end with the suffix *-ly*, which is more than a half.

As expected, not many adjectives with the suffix *-ly* were among the most frequent ones. Only six of them appeared within the whole five-hundred-word list, three of which fall within the first two hundred and only two are in the top one hundred most common adjectives.

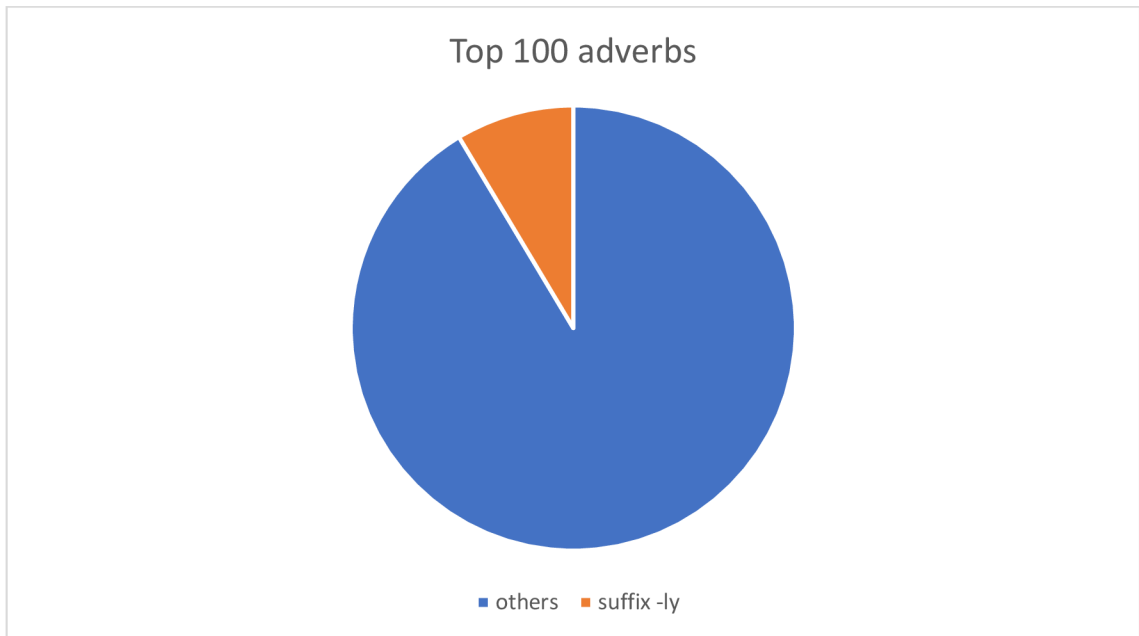
Within the fifty most frequent adverbs, only three with the suffix *-ly* appeared. With 2 154 862 instances out of 40 422 147, they make up only 5.3%.



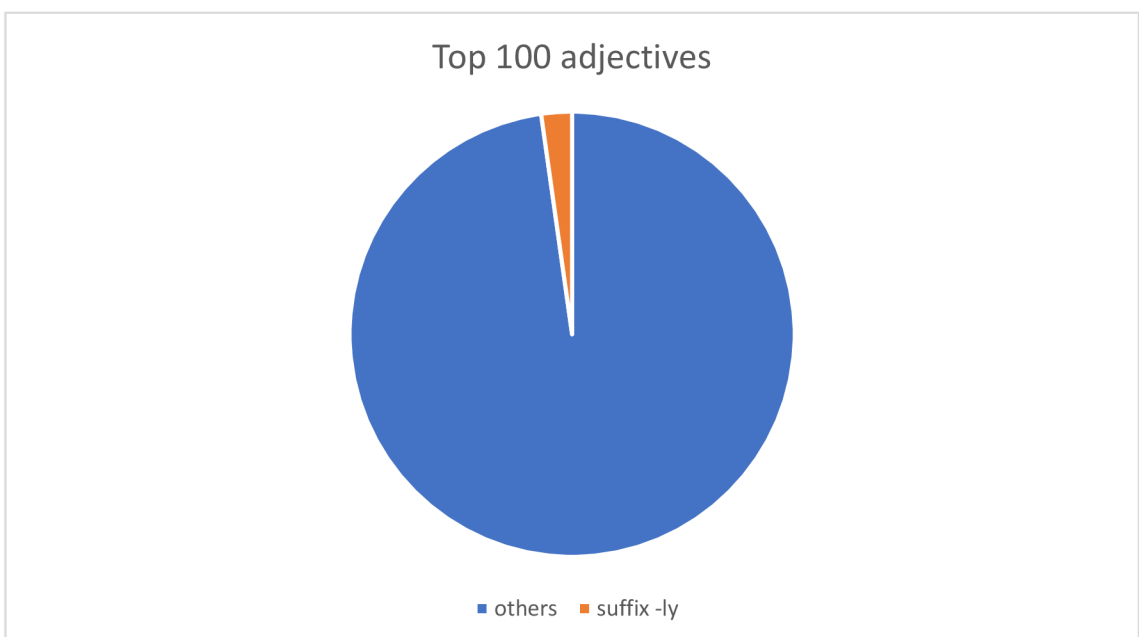
There is only one less *-ly* adjective in the fifty most common ones, but these two adjectives only add up to 503 954 instances out of total 16 275 954, which is 3.1%.



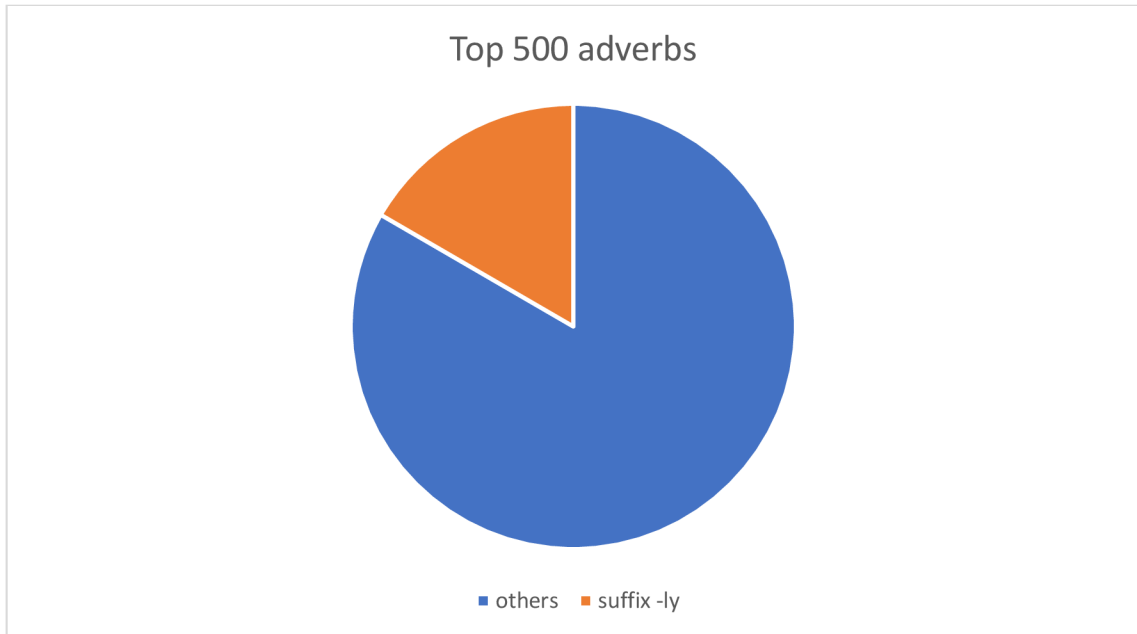
There are seventeen adverbs with the suffix *-ly* within the top one hundred most common adverbs. They make up 4 178 779 out of 48 674 040 instances of adverbs, which is approximately 8,6%.



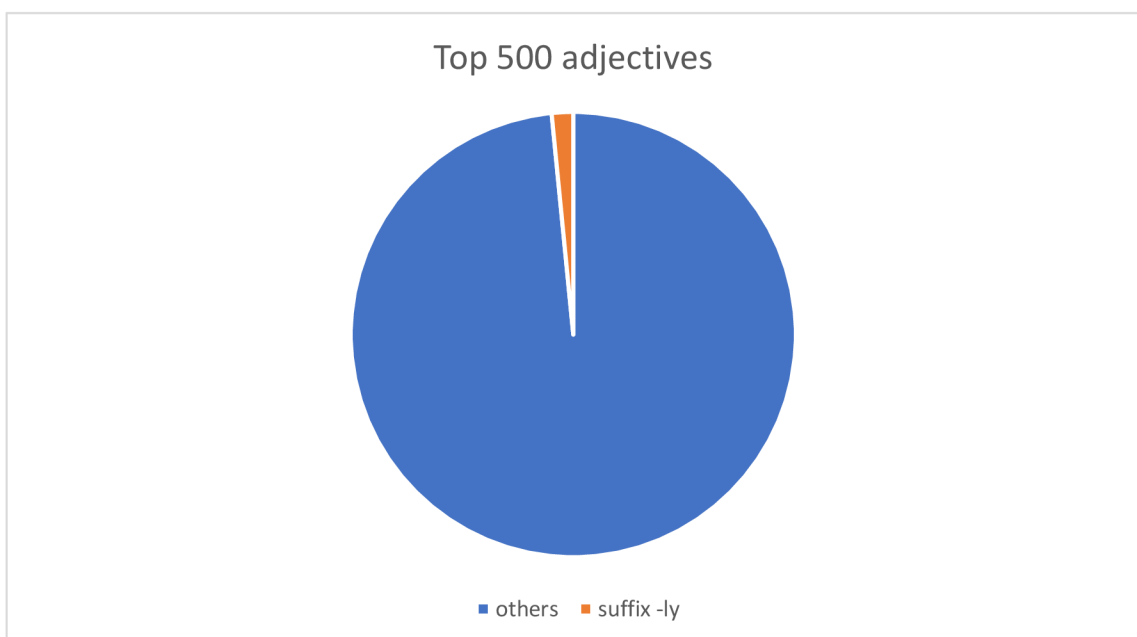
In the top one hundred most frequent adjectives, two contain the suffix *-ly*. They add up to 503 954 instances, which is around 2.2% out of the total 22 622 201 instances of adjectives within the top hundred.



Over a half of the five hundred most common adverbs were created by the suffix *-ly*. These two hundred and eighty different words add up to 9 619 445 instances, which means that they make up around 16.6% out of the total 57 825 833 instances of top five hundred adverbs.

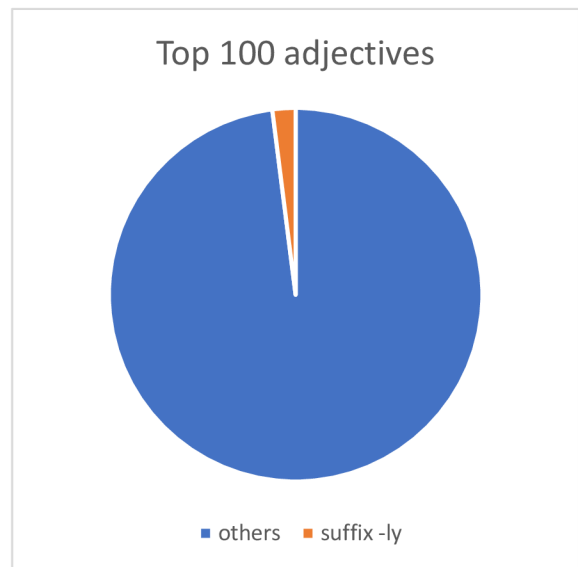
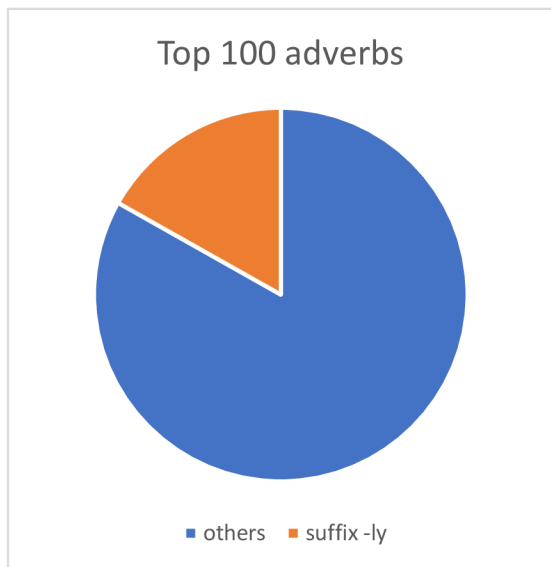


The list of the five hundred most common adjectives only contains six adjectives with the suffix *-ly*. Their 644 826 instances out of the total 41 360 521 amount to around 1.6%.

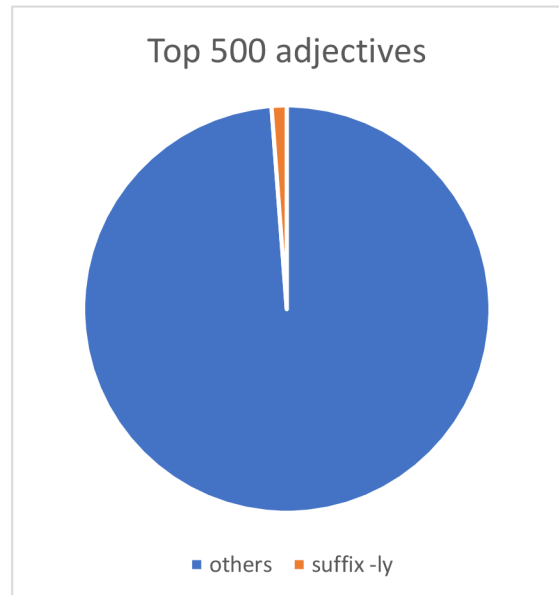
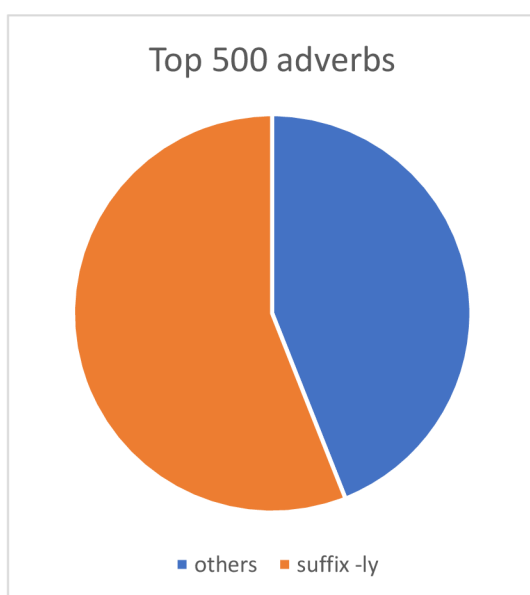


On previous pages, we could see a visualisation of the frequency of instances of words with the suffix *-ly*. In graphs below we can see the proportion *-ly* words make up in the lists of most frequent adverbs and adjectives.

As mentioned before, only seventeen *-ly* adverbs and two *-ly* adjectives show up among the one hundred most common adverbs and adjectives respectively, which means that they make up 17% and 2% of their one-hundred-word lists respectively.



Among five hundred most common adverbs, we can find two hundred and eighty adverbs created with the suffix *-ly*, which means they make up 56%. However, only six *-ly* adjectives were found in the list of five hundred most common adjectives, which is 1.2%.



8. Conclusion

Both the sum of top twenty and the top one hundred words ending with the suffix *-ly*, as well as the original total number of words ending with the letters *ly* found in each corpus might suggest, that British English might have slightly more such adjectives than American English, while American English seems to have slightly more such adverbs than British English does. However, I find these differences insignificant.

Where we do see a remarkable difference, is between the number of adjectives and adverbs ending with the suffix *-ly*, which is clearly apparent in both corpora. Adverbs ending with the suffix *-ly* are much more common than adjectives created by adding the same suffix. This is corroborated by the relative frequency of most common adverbs and adjectives with the suffix *-ly* too.

The gap between the prevalence of *-ly* adverbs and *-ly* adjectives on lists of most frequent words of their respective part of speech category, also points to the idea of adjectival *-ly* being more of a marginal suffix when compared to the adverbial *-ly*, which is very common.

I believe that the data I found in the corpora support the hypothesis assuming *-ly* to be a primarily adverbial suffix.

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Appendix

Top 100 *-ly* adverbs in both corpora combined, sorted by the sum of both.

	COCA	UKWAC	sum
adverbs	7 693 884	7 099 245	14 793 129
ONLY	905 097	972 709	1 877 806
REALLY	895 916	356 280	1 252 196
ACTUALLY	353 861	159 551	513 412
PROBABLY	269 732	166 819	436 551
ESPECIALLY	186 075	164 370	350 445
SIMPLY	166 558	159 167	325 725
USUALLY	123 303	170 631	293 934
PARTICULARLY	104 017	189 904	293 921
FINALLY	181 243	111 448	292 691
RECENTLY	125 532	153 266	278 798
CURRENTLY	66 051	200 589	266 640
CERTAINLY	138 162	101 196	239 358
EXACTLY	162 663	70 223	232 886
NEARLY	138 033	79 296	217 329
CLEARLY	105 966	110 945	216 911
QUICKLY	120 141	95 041	215 182
FULLY	63 237	131 885	195 122
DIRECTLY	79 121	112 427	191 548
COMPLETELY	103 940	78 951	182 891
GENERALLY	74 679	105 720	180 399
HIGHLY	68 588	109 042	177 630
EASILY	76 351	97 344	173 695
IMMEDIATELY	79 855	85 968	165 823
EVENTUALLY	81 482	62 086	143 568
ABSOLUTELY	98 574	42 824	141 398
EARLY	84 142	55 748	139 890
OBVIOUSLY	85 368	54 284	139 652
EXTREMELY	51 789	74 087	125 876
PREVIOUSLY	44 478	76 825	121 303
NORMALLY	29 965	88 754	118 719
TRULY	67 680	50 929	118 609
POSSIBLY	58 071	58 598	116 669
SLIGHTLY	55 390	59 843	115 233
MOSTLY	72 378	40 950	113 328
APPARENTLY	67 250	45 545	112 795
SUDDENLY	77 721	33 707	111 428
TOTALLY	67 119	43 584	110 703
RELATIVELY	52 070	56 436	108 506
SERIOUSLY	64 828	42 349	107 177
SPECIFICALLY	48 927	56 316	105 243
UNFORTUNATELY	49 866	55 347	105 213
DEFINITELY	70 982	34 175	105 157
INCREASINGLY	44 978	55 796	100 774
ENTIRELY	49 351	48 701	98 052
EFFECTIVELY	31 506	63 633	95 139
ORIGINALLY	29 083	64 988	94 071
CAREFULLY	43 034	49 065	92 099
APPROXIMATELY	32 193	59 656	91 849
SLOWLY	60 873	30 419	91 292

Table 8.1

FREQUENTLY	40 034	51 132	91 166
CLOSELY	35 292	55 391	90 683
LARGELY	46 002	44 041	90 043
MAINLY	24 910	63 710	88 620
SIGNIFICANTLY	46 379	42 198	88 577
FAIRLY	36 548	49 730	86 278
BASICALLY	62 045	23 113	85 158
NECESSARILY	44 681	40 064	84 745
REGULARLY	25 635	57 905	83 540
ULTIMATELY	49 899	30 557	80 456
PROPERLY	29 063	51 085	80 148
WIDELY	32 220	47 564	79 784
TYPICALLY	41 485	34 993	76 478
MERELY	40 843	33 991	74 834
PERSONALLY	43 236	30 829	74 065
HARDLY	43 416	30 236	73 652
EQUALLY	30 969	41 668	72 637
STRONGLY	31 943	40 438	72 381
PRIMARILY	33 079	37 123	70 202
AUTOMATICALLY	20 006	49 373	69 379
SURELY	33 758	35 524	69 282
INITIALLY	27 566	41 057	68 623
SUCCESSFULLY	22 132	45 825	67 957
PERFECTLY	37 924	29 372	67 296
CONSTANTLY	33 169	29 787	62 956
POTENTIALLY	30 671	31 555	62 226
ESSENTIALLY	37 053	24 448	61 501
RAPIDLY	24 922	34 425	59 347
HOPEFULLY	27 150	31 725	58 875
RARELY	31 747	26 743	58 490
LITERALLY	39 095	19 183	58 278
DEEPLY	36 652	21 186	57 838
VIRTUALLY	30 113	27 037	57 150
NATURALLY	27 157	28 796	55 953
NEWLY	23 531	32 266	55 797
SHORTLY	23 986	31 646	55 632
HEAVILY	28 881	25 429	54 310
OCCASIONALLY	26 248	27 662	53 910
BARELY	42 257	11 615	53 872
SIMILARLY	26 398	26 673	53 071
GREATLY	19 911	30 346	50 257
PARTLY	21 132	28 367	49 499
COMMONLY	17 663	27 430	45 093
RESPECTIVELY	20 478	24 568	45 046
PRECISELY	26 539	18 448	44 987
BADLY	23 330	21 141	44 471
CORRECTLY	17 759	26 275	44 034
ROUGHLY	28 083	14 694	42 777
ACTIVELY	15 863	26 776	42 639
LOCALLY	8 963	33 641	42 604
GRADUALLY	18 849	23 047	41 896

Table 8.2

Top 100 -ly adjectives in both corpora combined, sorted by the sum of both.

	COCA	UKWAC	sum
adjectives	863 466	930 065	1 793 531
ONLY	325 877	208 987	534 864
EARLY	178 363	227 799	406 162
DAILY	61 095	66 466	127 561
FRIENDLY	27 548	69 883	97 431
LOVELY	29 070	46 546	75 616
WEEKLY	21 690	46 446	68 136
MONTHLY	19 414	46 679	66 093
ELDERLY	19 744	25 042	44 786
UGLY	23 967	9 093	33 060
LONELY	17 067	9 769	26 836
DEADLY	17 527	8 808	26 335
LIVELY	6 797	18 189	24 986
COSTLY	11 069	10 317	21 386
QUARTERLY	3 392	16 877	20 269
TIMELY	7 194	11 496	18 690
SCHOLARLY	6 758	8 553	15 311
YEARLY	4 036	8 294	12 330
HEAVENLY	5 011	6 126	11 137
BODILY	5 083	5 438	10 521
HOURLY	2 496	6 007	8 503
*-FRIENDLY	5 021	3 053	8 074
ORDERLY	4 313	2 954	7 267
EARTHLY	3 550	3 573	7 123
NIGHTLY	3 641	1 995	5 636
WORLDLY	3 004	2 578	5 582
USER-FRIENDLY	1 188	4 358	5 546
STATELY	1 813	2 933	4 746
LEISURELY	1 421	3 183	4 604
GHOSTLY	2 194	2 082	4 276
GODLY	1 277	2 681	3 958
COWARDLY	2 311	1 086	3 397
LOWLY	1 840	1 529	3 369
MANLY	2 141	1 151	3 292
UNRULY	2 131	1 145	3 276
GHASTLY	1 497	1 439	2 936
HOMELY	873	1 722	2 595
WOBBLY	1 470	1 105	2 575
SICKLY	1 593	892	2 485
DISORDERLY	1 377	1 096	2 473
UNTIMELY	1 122	1 275	2 397
UNFRIENDLY	1 421	938	2 359
PRIESTLY	912	1 222	2 134
UNSIGHTLY	703	1 364	2 067
WESTERLY	385	1 631	2 016
FAMILY-FRIENDL	962	1 009	1 971
ECO-FRIENDLY	864	1 036	1 900
EASTERLY	364	1 511	1 875
NORTHERLY	379	1 472	1 851
SOUTHERLY	363	1 463	1 826

Table 9.1

EXPERTLY	-	1 781	1 781
OTHERWORLDLY	1 329	427	1 756
UNGODLY	822	877	1 699
PRINTER-FRIEND	16	1 560	1 576
SURLY	1 092	480	1 572
WILY	829	649	1 478
COURTLY	731	605	1 336
PRINCELY	452	841	1 293
DEATHLY	959	325	1 284
KINDLY	1 272	8	1 280
SAINTLY	669	532	1 201
BROTHERLY	783	416	1 199
SHAPELY	692	390	1 082
GOODLY	465	587	1 052
MASTERLY	264	716	980
UNEARTHLY	531	424	955
DASTARDLY	492	446	938
GENTLEMANLY	527	348	875
PORTLY	596	267	863
PAINTERLY	481	350	831
MOTHERLY	619	211	830
FATHERLY	554	267	821
ENVIRONMENTA	81	732	813
BEASTLY	420	386	806
CHILD-FRIENDLY	186	569	755
SPRIGHTLY	280	453	733
WOMANLY	529	184	713
COOLLY	-	650	650
MISERLY	278	341	619
KINGLY	222	390	612
SCRAGGLY	545	23	568
KID-FRIENDLY	468	77	545
NEIGHBORLY	230	301	531
TWICE-WEEKLY	204	299	503
SLOVENLY	286	181	467
BI-WEEKLY	173	274	447
BUSINESS-FRIEN	195	196	391
TWICE-YEARLY	67	305	372
KNIGHTLY	96	264	360
TWICE-DAILY	129	194	323
SOUTHWESTERLY	82	239	321
LORDLY	173	147	320
SISTERLY	207	87	294
WRITERLY	209	78	287
UNLOVELY	140	126	266
UNMANLY	161	68	229
NORTHEASTERLY	62	164	226
UNWORLDLY	125	98	223
CONSUMER-FRIE	126	93	219
NORTHWESTERLY	62	151	213
SOUTHEASTERLY	48	164	212
WIFELY	179	33	212

Table 9.2

Top 100 -ly adverbs and adjectives in both corpora combined, sorted by the sum of both.
Blue colour highlights adjectives, adverbs are orange.

	coca	ukwac	total
ONLY	905 097	972 709	1 877 806
REALLY	895 916	356 280	1 252 196
ONLY	325 877	208 987	534 864
ACTUALLY	353 861	159 551	513 412
PROBABLY	269 732	166 819	436 551
EARLY	178 363	227 799	406 162
ESPECIALLY	186 075	164 370	350 445
SIMPLY	166 558	159 167	325 725
USUALLY	129 412	176 789	306 201
PARTICULARLY	104 017	189 904	293 921
FINALLY	181 243	111 448	292 691
RECENTLY	125 532	153 266	278 798
CURRENTLY	66 051	200 589	266 640
CERTAINLY	138 865	101 406	240 271
EXACTLY	162 663	70 223	232 886
NEARLY	138 033	79 296	217 329
CLEARLY	105 966	110 945	216 911
QUICKLY	120 141	95 041	215 182
FULLY	85 064	120 121	205 185
DIRECTLY	79 121	112 427	191 548
COMPLETELY	103 940	78 951	182 891
GENERALLY	74 679	105 720	180 399
HIGHLY	68 588	109 042	177 630
EASILY	77 455	97 792	175 247
IMMEDIATELY	79 855	85 968	165 823
EVENTUALLY	81 482	62 086	143 568
ABSOLUTELY	98 574	42 824	141 398
EARLY	84 142	55 748	139 890
OBVIOUSLY	85 368	54 284	139 652
DAILY	61 224	66 660	127 884
EXTREMELY	51 789	74 087	125 876
PREVIOUSLY	44 478	76 825	121 303
NORMALLY	29 965	88 754	118 719
TRULY	67 680	50 929	118 609
POSSIBLY	58 071	58 598	116 669
SLIGHTLY	55 390	59 843	115 233
FRIENDLY	33 549	80 581	114 130
MOSTLY	72 378	40 950	113 328
APPARENTLY	67 250	45 545	112 795
SUDDENLY	77 721	33 707	111 428
TOTALLY	67 119	43 584	110 703
RELATIVELY	52 070	56 436	108 506
SERIOUSLY	64 828	42 349	107 177
SPECIFICALLY	48 927	56 316	105 243
UNFORTUNATELY	49 866	55 347	105 213
DEFINITELY	70 982	34 175	105 157
INCREASINGLY	44 978	55 796	100 774
ENTIRELY	49 351	48 701	98 052
EFFECTIVELY	31 506	63 633	95 139

Table 10.1

ORIGINALLY	29 083	64 988	94 071
CAREFULLY	43 034	49 065	92 099
APPROXIMATELY	32 193	59 656	91 849
SLOWLY	60 873	30 419	91 292
FREQUENTLY	40 034	51 132	91 166
CLOSELY	35 292	55 391	90 683
LARGELY	46 002	44 041	90 043
MAINLY	24 910	63 710	88 620
SIGNIFICANTLY	46 379	42 198	88 577
FAIRLY	36 548	49 730	86 278
BASICALLY	62 045	23 113	85 158
NECESSARILY	44 681	40 064	84 745
REGULARLY	25 635	57 905	83 540
ULTIMATELY	49 899	30 557	80 456
PROPERLY	29 063	51 085	80 148
WIDELY	32 220	47 564	79 784
TYPICALLY	41 485	34 993	76 478
LOVELY	29 070	46 546	75 616
MERELY	40 843	33 991	74 834
PERSONALLY	43 236	30 829	74 065
HARDLY	43 416	30 236	73 652
EQUALLY	30 969	41 668	72 637
STRONGLY	31 943	40 438	72 381
PRIMARILY	33 079	37 123	70 202
AUTOMATICALLY	20 006	49 373	69 379
SURELY	33 758	35 524	69 282
WEEKLY	22 067	47 019	69 086
INITIALLY	27 566	41 057	68 623
SUCCESSFULLY	22 132	45 825	67 957
PERFECTLY	37 924	29 372	67 296
MONTHLY	19 481	46 679	66 160
CONSTANTLY	33 169	29 787	62 956
POTENTIALLY	30 671	31 555	62 226
ESSENTIALLY	37 053	24 448	61 501
RAPIDLY	24 922	34 425	59 347
HOPEFULLY	27 150	31 725	58 875
RARELY	31 747	26 743	58 490
LITERALLY	39 095	19 183	58 278
DEEPLY	36 652	21 186	57 838
VIRTUALLY	30 113	27 037	57 150
NATURALLY	27 863	29 201	57 064
NEWLY	23 531	32 266	55 797
SHORTLY	23 986	31 646	55 632
HEAVILY	28 881	25 429	54 310
OCCASIONALLY	26 248	27 662	53 910
BARELY	42 257	11 615	53 872
SIMILARLY	26 398	26 673	53 071
GREATLY	19 911	30 346	50 257
PARTLY	21 132	28 367	49 499
COMMONLY	17 663	27 430	45 093
RESPECTIVELY	20 478	24 568	45 046

Table 10.2

First 500 adverbs in COCA

1	SO	2 369 950	51	ENOUGH	280 796	101	THEREFORE	89 981
2	JUST	2 270 993	52	ALMOST	279 393	102	THROUGH	87 239
3	UP	2 108 810	53	LATER	274 177	103	OBVIOUSLY	85 367
4	OUT	1 828 605	54	PROBABLY	269 727	104	ALONE	85 042
5	HOW	1 666 475	55	FOR	262 501	105	FURTHER	84 817
6	NOW	1 602 015	56	ELSE	261 822	106	EARLIER	84 674
7	HERE	1 413 633	57	FAR	258 380	107	EARLY	84 140
8	THEN	1 344 461	58	HOME	250 336	108	EVENTUALLY	81 479
9	MORE	1 249 010	59	BOTH	244 396	109	BY	80 090
10	WELL	1 189 103	60	LITTLE	244 070	110	IMMEDIATELY	79 855
11	ALSO	1 142 798	61	BETTER	241 826	111	DIRECTLY	79 121
12	VERY	963 551	62	PLEASE	236 196	112	SUDDENLY	77 721
13	BACK	938 670	63	LONG	219 954	113	EASILY	76 351
14	THERE	932 405	64	SOMETIMES	201 797	114	ANYMORE	75 906
15	EVEN	920 345	65	PERHAPS	191 398	115	GENERALLY	74 679
16	ONLY	905 094	66	LESS	190 018	116	ALONG	74 461
17	REALLY	895 913	67	ESPECIALLY	186 072	117	INSIDE	72 440
18	WHY	832 923	68	PRETTY	183 714	118	MOSTLY	72 378
19	RIGHT	830 733	69	QUITE	181 432	119	DEFINITELY	70 982
20	DOWN	820 298	70	FINALLY	181 238	120	SURE	70 758
21	ON	818 754	71	EITHER	181 132	121	OTHERWISE	69 222
22	TOO	771 413	72	SIMPLY	166 558	122	HIGHLY	68 584
23	STILL	757 544	73	EXACTLY	162 663	123	TRULY	67 680
24	NEVER	744 607	74	NO	145 060	124	APPARENTLY	67 247
25	IN	726 627	75	BEFORE	142 669	125	TOTALLY	67 117
26	WHEN	669 532	76	SOON	138 517	126	CURRENTLY	66 051
27	AS	662 409	77	CERTAINLY	138 161	127	YESTERDAY	65 617
28	WHERE	597 352	78	NEARLY	138 033	128	SOMEWHERE	65 596
29	MOST	561 359	79	TONIGHT	133 187	129	SERIOUSLY	64 824
30	OVER	538 727	80	RECENTLY	125 530	130	LIKE	63 764
31	AGAIN	530 744	81	LONGER	123 822	131	FULLY	63 237
32	ALWAYS	492 936	82	USUALLY	123 303	132	BELOW	62 312
33	OFF	479 462	83	FORWARD	120 846	133	BASICALLY	62 045
34	ABOUT	462 984	84	QUICKLY	120 139	134	TWICE	61 560
35	TODAY	430 991	85	THUS	118 653	135	FAST	61 539
36	EVER	402 614	86	RATHER	115 104	136	ABOVE	61 021
37	MAYBE	374 334	87	THAT	112 903	137	SLOWLY	60 871
38	AWAY	355 540	88	P.M.	110 263	138	POSSIBLY	58 071
39	ACTUALLY	353 855	89	HARD	109 735	139	SOMEHOW	57 579
40	OKAY	339 646	90	CLEARLY	105 963	140	STRAIGHT	56 942
41	YET	338 420	91	PARTICULARLY	104 016	141	A.M.	56 128
42	MUCH	329 243	92	COMPLETELY	103 940	142	SLIGHTLY	55 388
43	HOWEVER	326 043	93	LOT	99 283	143	ANYWHERE	53 949
44	AROUND	324 082	94	BEST	98 807	144	CLOSE	52 356
45	LEAST	311 572	95	ABSOLUTELY	98 574	145	RELATIVELY	52 070
46	ALREADY	311 499	96	INSTEAD	98 544	146	EXTREMELY	51 789
47	TOGETHER	302 962	97	ANYWAY	97 820	147	FOREVER	51 733
48	OFTEN	295 709	98	INDEED	95 859	148	OUTSIDE	51 015
49	AGO	294 951	99	TOMORROW	92 235	149	ULTIMATELY	49 899
50	ONCE	290 451	100	AHEAD	91 331	150	UNFORTUNATELY	49 866

Table 3.1

151	ENTIRELY	49 350		201	EQUALLY	30 968		251	WAY	19 596
152	SPECIFICALLY	48 927		202	POTENTIALLY	30 670		252	CONSISTENTLY	19 392
153	THOUGH	48 918		203	VIRTUALLY	30 111		253	BRIEFLY	19 353
154	LATE	47 681		204	NORMALLY	29 963		254	WHEREVER	18 966
155	NEITHER	47 463		205	MOREOVER	29 853		255	SEEMINGLY	18 903
156	UNDER	46 801		206	FUCKING	29 188		256	GRADUALLY	18 849
157	SIGNIFICANTLY	46 378		207	ORIGINALLY	29 083		257	OVERALL	18 591
158	LARGELY	46 002		208	PROPERLY	29 063		258	ABROAD	18 254
159	EVERYWHERE	45 170		209	HEAVILY	28 880		259	HARDER	18 203
160	INCREASINGLY	44 978		210	BESIDES	28 711		260	DAILY	18 185
161	NECESSARILY	44 681		211	FASTER	28 420		261	OFFICIALLY	18 080
162	PREVIOUSLY	44 478		212	NOWHERE	28 292		262	THIS	17 785
163	HARDLY	43 416		213	ROUGHLY	28 083		263	SURPRISINGLY	17 782
164	PERSONALLY	43 234		214	INITIALLY	27 566		264	CORRECTLY	17 759
165	CAREFULLY	43 033		215	NATURALLY	27 157		265	COMMONLY	17 663
166	FORTH	42 834		216	HOPEFULLY	27 150		266	SHORT	17 612
167	MEANWHILE	42 307		217	HONESTLY	26 926		267	NONETHELESS	17 584
168	BARELY	42 257		218	PRECISELY	26 537		268	UPSTAIRS	17 362
169	APART	42 172		219	SIMILARLY	26 398		269	PRACTICALLY	17 237
170	PART	41 783		220	OCCASIONALLY	26 248		270	DRAMATICALLY	17 085
171	LIKELY	41 539		221	SINCE	25 797		271	PAST	16 881
172	TYPICALLY	41 485		222	REGULARLY	25 635		272	IMPORTANTLY	16 802
173	MERELY	40 843		223	PUBLICLY	24 932		273	SIMULTANEOUSLY	16 623
174	SOMEWHAT	40 262		224	RAPIDLY	24 922		274	ANY	15 960
175	CLOSER	40 151		225	MAINLY	24 910		275	ACTIVELY	15 862
176	ASIDE	40 129		226	NEVERTHELESS	24 438		276	HISTORICALLY	15 703
177	FREQUENTLY	40 033		227	DIFFERENTLY	24 322		277	LAST	15 550
178	BEHIND	39 873		228	QUIETLY	24 222		278	LIGHTLY	15 471
179	ONLINE	39 528		229	SHORTLY	23 986		279	SOMEDAY	15 352
180	DEEP	39 217		230	NEWLY	23 531		280	LEGALLY	15 315
181	LITERALLY	39 093		231	BADLY	23 330		281	THEREBY	15 288
182	ADDITION	38 709		232	POLITICALLY	23 228		282	SEXUALLY	15 120
183	PERFECTLY	37 920		233	WRONG	23 150		283	ALTOGETHER	14 986
184	WHENEVER	37 287		234	INCREDIBLY	23 107		284	KINDA	14 792
185	ESSENTIALLY	37 053		235	FRANKLY	22 564		285	ALRIGHT	14 773
186	DEEPLY	36 652		236	HENCE	22 424		286	INSTANTLY	14 557
187	FAIRLY	36 548		237	FURTHERMORE	22 381		287	REPORTEDLY	14 446
188	FIRST	36 365		238	PHYSICALLY	22 212		288	GOOD	14 435
189	CLOSELY	35 292		239	SUCCESSFULLY	22 129		289	SUPPOSEDLY	14 318
190	REGARDLESS	35 166		240	REPEATEDLY	22 066		290	SAFELY	14 285
191	SURELY	33 758		241	LATELY	21 666		291	ALLEGEDLY	14 263
192	CONSTANTLY	33 165		242	PARTLY	21 132		292	SOLELY	14 236
193	PRIMARILY	33 079		243	GENTLY	20 979		293	NEARBY	14 195
194	GENERAL	32 547		244	TIGHT	20 839		294	THOROUGHLY	14 022
195	WIDELY	32 220		245	RESPECTIVELY	20 476		295	NEAR	14 016
196	APPROXIMATELY	32 192		246	ACROSS	20 474		296	LIKEWISE	13 985
197	ELSEWHERE	32 162		247	LOUD	20 340		297	MENTALLY	13 939
198	STRONGLY	31 943		248	AUTOMATICALL	20 006		298	TRADITIONALLY	13 884
199	RARELY	31 747		249	GREATLY	19 911		299	POORLY	13 876
200	EFFECTIVELY	31 502		250	SOONER	19 681		300	FIRMLY	13 854

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302 PRESUMABLY	13 762	352 STATISTICALLY	11 110	402 FRESHLY	8 114	452 UPWARD	5 952
303 SADLY	13 633	353 ROUND	11 045	403 BROADLY	8 099	453 INDIRECTLY	5 948
304 FORTUNATELY	13 552	354 NAMELY	10 918	404 RANDOMLY	8 080	454 REMOTELY	5 895
305 READILY	13 430	355 FORMERLY	10 829	405 WIDE	8 028	455 VAGUELY	5 893
306 ADDITIONALLY	13 328	356 USUAL	10 783	406 CULTURALLY	7 919	456 VASTLY	5 875
307 SOMETIME	13 317	357 SEVERELY	10 778	407 ABRUPTLY	7 915	457 WITHOUT	5 833
308 WORLDWIDE	13 266	358 ANYTHING	10 633	408 WORSE	7 884	458 VOLUNTARILY	5 750
309 O'CLOCK	13 145	359 DEAL	10 622	409 INTERESTINGLY	7 804	459 IDEALLY	5 670
310 FARTHER	13 099	360 ACCORDINGLY	10 609	410 ALOUD	7 776	460 THANKFULLY	5 663
311 EXCLUSIVELY	12 947	361 POSITIVELY	10 578	411 AWHILE	7 709	461 THEREOF	5 660
312 HIGH	12 829	362 ROUTINELY	10 568	412 LUCKILY	7 653	462 COMFORTABLY	5 580
313 TECHNICALLY	12 829	363 NOTABLY	10 474	413 SAFER	7 581	463 UNDERNEATH	5 563
314 PARTIALLY	12 770	364 FINANCIALLY	10 451	414 SECONDLY	7 523	464 ABOARD	5 559
315 ALIKE	12 769	365 CONSIDERABLY	10 391	415 INTENTIONALLY	7 508	465 DAMN	5 546
316 EXPLICITLY	12 744	366 PRIVATELY	10 189	416 NOWADAYS	7 501	466 CASUALLY	5 523
317 EMOTIONALLY	12 733	367 CLEAR	10 160	417 CRITICALLY	7 382	467 SYSTEMATICALLY	5 479
318 ANNUALLY	12 677	368 ECONOMICALLY	10 150	418 EFFICIENTLY	7 316	468 FAMOUSLY	5 479
319 DOWNTOWN	12 589	369 FUNDAMENTALLY	10 066	419 APPROPRIATELY	7 306	469 UNDERGROUND	5 429
320 DESPERATELY	12 530	370 NATIONALLY	9 918	420 SOMEPLACE	7 238	470 PRESENTLY	5 385
321 DEEPER	12 475	371 IRONICALLY	9 888	421 EVENLY	7 198	471 MUTUALLY	5 365
322 HAPPILY	12 458	372 NICELY	9 834	422 OVERHEAD	7 128	472 LOOSELY	5 322
323 PUBLIC	12 449	373 TEMPORARILY	9 811	423 ADEQUATELY	7 100	473 PROFESSIONALLY	5 306
324 SOCIALLY	12 426	374 INDEPENDENTLY	9 795	424 VISUALLY	7 070	474 AWFULLY	5 242
325 FREELY	12 225	375 GREAT	9 750	425 ODDLY	6 903	475 CALMLY	5 229
326 CONSEQUENTLY	12 152	376 CONTINUALLY	9 534	426 AGGRESSIVELY	6 796	476 SINCERELY	5 216
327 SOFTLY	12 072	377 SEPARATELY	9 512	427 GENETICALLY	6 778	477 THEORETICALLY	5 209
328 DELIBERATELY	12 064	378 PERMANENTLY	9 349	428 PREDOMINANTLY	6 776	478 ADMITTEDLY	5 187
329 ACCURATELY	12 052	379 STEADILY	9 330	429 PROUDLY	6 733	479 GLOBALLY	5 126
330 STRICTLY	12 034	380 BACKWARDS	9 329	430 WHOLLY	6 698	480 POLITELY	5 101
331 PURELY	11 696	381 NATIONWIDE	9 287	431 EVIDENTLY	6 696	481 LOW	5 078
332 OVERSEAS	11 658	382 GENUINELY	9 065	432 NEATLY	6 641	482 PERIODICALLY	5 072
333 TIGHTLY	11 593	383 LOCALLY	8 963	433 COLLECTIVELY	6 617	483 INTENSELY	5 043
334 DEAD	11 586	384 OVERLY	8 952	434 CONTINUOUSLY	6 613	484 SIDEWAYS	5 033
335 AFTERWARDS	11 571	385 REMARKABLY	8 885	435 INHERENTLY	6 601	485 UNEXPECTEDLY	5 001
336 BETWEEN	11 516	386 HALF	8 853	436 SMOOTHLY	6 584	486 WHEREBY	4 962
337 PER	11 469	387 UNDOUBTEDLY	8 775	437 THEREAFTER	6 499	487 AFTER	4 919
338 AFTERWARD	11 886	388 ARGUABLY	8 679	438 HIGHER	6 471	488 ENVIRONMENTALLY	4 910
339 BEYOND	11 856	389 ACCIDENTALLY	8 623	439 UNDERWAY	6 435	489 INVARIABLY	4 907
340 HALFWAY	11 841	390 SELDOM	8 562	440 FINELY	6 423	490 LIVE	4 899
341 OVERNIGHT	11 748	391 FORMALLY	8 558	441 OVERWHELMINGLY	6 402	491 CONVERSELY	4 881
342 WITHIN	11 726	392 SUFFICIENTLY	8 488	442 PROFOUNDLY	6 334	492 SWIFTLY	4 870
343 PURELY	11 696	393 SILENTLY	8 425	443 NEGATIVELY	6 313	493 AMAZINGLY	4 846
344 REASONABLY	11 451	394 BEAUTIFULLY	8 405	444 STRANGELY	6 252	494 EXTRAORDINARILY	4 841
345 UTTERLY	11 374	395 INDIVIDUALLY	8 401	445 RIGHTLY	6 247	495 SPECIALLY	4 816
346 DOWNSTAIRS	11 343	396 MORALLY	8 387	446 RADICALLY	6 244	496 UNIQUELY	4 789
347 TERRIBLY	11 298	397 WILDLY	8 367	447 PROMPTLY	6 200	497 SCARCELY	4 769
348 SHARPLY	11 293	398 SECRETLY	8 275	448 EXTENSIVELY	6 169	498 BRIGHTLY	4 757
349 SUBSTANTIALLY	11 272	399 LOUDLY	8 273	449 UNUSUALLY	6 109	499 PAINFULLY	4 756
350 INEVITABLY	11 245	400 BACKWARD	8 265	450 FAIR	6 036	500 DRASTICALLY	4 754

Table 11.3

First 500 adjectives in COCA

1	SO	2 369 950	51	ENOUGH	280 796	101	THEREFORE	89 981
2	JUST	2 270 993	52	ALMOST	279 393	102	THROUGH	87 239
3	UP	2 108 810	53	LATER	274 177	103	OBVIOUSLY	85 367
4	OUT	1 828 605	54	PROBABLY	269 727	104	ALONE	85 042
5	HOW	1 666 475	55	FOR	262 501	105	FURTHER	84 817
6	NOW	1 602 015	56	ELSE	261 822	106	EARLIER	84 674
7	HERE	1 413 633	57	FAR	258 380	107	EARLY	84 140
8	THEN	1 344 461	58	HOME	250 336	108	EVENTUALLY	81 479
9	MORE	1 249 010	59	BOTH	244 396	109	BY	80 090
10	WELL	1 189 103	60	LITTLE	244 070	110	IMMEDIATELY	79 855
11	ALSO	1 142 798	61	BETTER	241 826	111	DIRECTLY	79 121
12	VERY	963 551	62	PLEASE	236 196	112	SUDDENLY	77 721
13	BACK	938 670	63	LONG	219 954	113	EASILY	76 351
14	THERE	932 405	64	SOMETIMES	201 797	114	ANYMORE	75 906
15	EVEN	920 345	65	PERHAPS	191 398	115	GENERALLY	74 679
16	ONLY	905 094	66	LESS	190 018	116	ALONG	74 461
17	REALLY	895 913	67	ESPECIALLY	186 072	117	INSIDE	72 440
18	WHY	832 923	68	PRETTY	183 714	118	MOSTLY	72 378
19	RIGHT	830 733	69	QUITE	181 432	119	DEFINITELY	70 982
20	DOWN	820 298	70	FINALLY	181 238	120	SURE	70 758
21	ON	818 754	71	EITHER	181 132	121	OTHERWISE	69 222
22	TOO	771 413	72	SIMPLY	166 558	122	HIGHLY	68 584
23	STILL	757 544	73	EXACTLY	162 663	123	TRULY	67 680
24	NEVER	744 607	74	NO	145 060	124	APPARENTLY	67 247
25	IN	726 627	75	BEFORE	142 669	125	TOTALLY	67 117
26	WHEN	669 532	76	SOON	138 517	126	CURRENTLY	66 051
27	AS	662 409	77	CERTAINLY	138 161	127	YESTERDAY	65 617
28	WHERE	597 352	78	NEARLY	138 033	128	SOMEWHERE	65 596
29	MOST	561 359	79	TONIGHT	133 187	129	SERIOUSLY	64 824
30	OVER	538 727	80	RECENTLY	125 530	130	LIKE	63 764
31	AGAIN	530 744	81	LONGER	123 822	131	FULLY	63 237
32	ALWAYS	492 936	82	USUALLY	123 303	132	BELOW	62 312
33	OFF	479 462	83	FORWARD	120 846	133	BASICALLY	62 045
34	ABOUT	462 984	84	QUICKLY	120 139	134	TWICE	61 560
35	TODAY	430 991	85	THUS	118 653	135	FAST	61 539
36	EVER	402 614	86	RATHER	115 104	136	ABOVE	61 021
37	MAYBE	374 334	87	THAT	112 903	137	SLOWLY	60 871
38	AWAY	355 540	88	P.M.	110 263	138	POSSIBLY	58 071
39	ACTUALLY	353 855	89	HARD	109 735	139	SOMEHOW	57 579
40	OKAY	339 646	90	CLEARLY	105 963	140	STRAIGHT	56 942
41	YET	338 420	91	PARTICULARLY	104 016	141	A.M.	56 128
42	MUCH	329 243	92	COMPLETELY	103 940	142	SLIGHTLY	55 388
43	HOWEVER	326 043	93	LOT	99 283	143	ANYWHERE	53 949
44	AROUND	324 082	94	BEST	98 807	144	CLOSE	52 356
45	LEAST	311 572	95	ABSOLUTELY	98 574	145	RELATIVELY	52 070
46	ALREADY	311 499	96	INSTEAD	98 544	146	EXTREMELY	51 789
47	TOGETHER	302 962	97	ANYWAY	97 820	147	FOREVER	51 733
48	OFTEN	295 709	98	INDEED	95 859	148	OUTSIDE	51 015
49	AGO	294 951	99	TOMORROW	92 235	149	ULTIMATELY	49 899
50	ONCE	290 451	100	AHEAD	91 331	150	UNFORTUNATELY	49 866

Table 4.1

151	ENTIRELY	49 350		201	EQUALLY	30 968		251	WAY	19 596
152	SPECIFICALLY	48 927		202	POTENTIALLY	30 670		252	CONSISTENTLY	19 392
153	THOUGH	48 918		203	VIRTUALLY	30 111		253	BRIEFLY	19 353
154	LATE	47 681		204	NORMALLY	29 963		254	WHEREVER	18 966
155	NEITHER	47 463		205	MOREOVER	29 853		255	SEEMINGLY	18 903
156	UNDER	46 801		206	FUCKING	29 188		256	GRADUALLY	18 849
157	SIGNIFICANTLY	46 378		207	ORIGINALLY	29 083		257	OVERALL	18 591
158	LARGELY	46 002		208	PROPERLY	29 063		258	ABROAD	18 254
159	EVERYWHERE	45 170		209	HEAVILY	28 880		259	HARDER	18 203
160	INCREASINGLY	44 978		210	BESIDES	28 711		260	DAILY	18 185
161	NECESSARILY	44 681		211	FASTER	28 420		261	OFFICIALLY	18 080
162	PREVIOUSLY	44 478		212	NOWHERE	28 292		262	THIS	17 785
163	HARDLY	43 416		213	ROUGHLY	28 083		263	SURPRISINGLY	17 782
164	PERSONALLY	43 234		214	INITIALLY	27 566		264	CORRECTLY	17 759
165	CAREFULLY	43 033		215	NATURALLY	27 157		265	COMMONLY	17 663
166	FORTH	42 834		216	HOPEFULLY	27 150		266	SHORT	17 612
167	MEANWHILE	42 307		217	HONESTLY	26 926		267	NONETHELESS	17 584
168	BARELY	42 257		218	PRECISELY	26 537		268	UPSTAIRS	17 362
169	APART	42 172		219	SIMILARLY	26 398		269	PRACTICALLY	17 237
170	PART	41 783		220	OCCASIONALLY	26 248		270	DRAMATICALLY	17 085
171	LIKELY	41 539		221	SINCE	25 797		271	PAST	16 881
172	TYPICALLY	41 485		222	REGULARLY	25 635		272	IMPORTANTLY	16 802
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