

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910817667903321
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Titolo	Lexical semantics and diachronic morphology : the development of -hood, -dom and -ship in the history of English / / Carola Trips
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Tubingen, : Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2009
ISBN	1-282-29634-5 9786612296345 3-484-97131-2
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (277 p.)
Collana	Linguistische Arbeiten, , 0344-6727 ; ; 527
Classificazione	HE 230
Disciplina	425.92
Soggetti	English language - Word formation - History English language - Suffixes and prefixes English language - Semantics, Historical Historical lexicology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 247-254) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- List of Tables -- List of Abbreviations and Acronyms -- 1. Introduction -- 2. The development of suffixes -- 3. Frequency, productivity and creativity -- 4. The data -- 5. -hood, -dom and -ship as rivals in word formation processes -- 6. A lexical-semantic analysis of word-formations with -hood, -dom and -ship -- 7. Theoretical consequences of morphological change -- 8. Conclusion -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	This book is the most comprehensive study to date of the development of the three suffixes -hood, -dom and -ship in the history of English. Based on data from annotated corpora it provides an in depth investigation from Old English to Modern English and shows that structurally the three suffixes developed from syntactic heads (nouns) via morphological heads in compounds to morphological heads in derivations. Being an instance of morphologisation the rise of suffixes clearly shows that word formation is not part of the syntactic module. This development is triggered by semantic change, more precisely, by the semantics of the elements which keep their salient meanings and develop further meanings through metonymic shifts, finally leading to

underspecified meanings. The findings are analysed in a revised version of Lieber's (2004) framework to account for the diachronic facts and have far-reaching consequences for morphological theory since they show that derivational suffixes bear meaning and hence contribute to processes of lexicalisation which is clear evidence for sign-based models and against, for example, Separationist assumptions.
