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# **ON THE THEME OF RUSSIAN DEVERBAL NOUNS** Slavic Linguistics Colloquium, November 3, 2021

# **1.** THE RUSSIAN THEME

The Russian verb may contain additional morphology between the lexical stem and tense:

(1) a. [[[[PRFX + [stem + v]] + ASP] + THEME] + TENSE] + AGR]

b.	over	-start- start		a- TH	e- PRES	t 3sg
	is resta	arting				

Some verbs are athematic: nothing intervenes between the stem and tense:

(2)	a.	lez- e- t climb PRES 3SG <i>is climbing/climbs</i>	b.	lez- l- a climb PAST FSG was climbing/climbed
(3)	a.	čit- áj- e- t read TH PRES 3SG is reading/reads	b.	čit- á- l- a read TH PAST FSG was reading/read

Most Russian verbs are not athematic:

(4)		PRES.1SG	PRES.2SG	PAST.FSG	INF		
	a.	léz-u	léz-e-š <sup>j</sup>	léz-l-a	léz-t <sup>j</sup>	'climb'	Ø
	b.	čit-áj-u	čit-áj-e-š <sup>j</sup>	čit-á-l-a	čit-á-t <sup>j</sup>	'read'	a(j)
	с.	bel-éj-u	bel-éj-e-š <sup>j</sup>	bel-é-l-a	bel-é-t <sup>j</sup>	'be white'	e(j)
	d.	to-n-ú	tó-n-e-š <sup>j</sup>	to-nú-l-a	to-nú-t <sup>j</sup>	'sink'	(n)u
	e.	kol <sup>j</sup> -ú	kól-e-š <sup>j</sup>	kol-ó-l-a	kol-ó-t <sup>j</sup>	'stab'	0
	f.	smol'-ú	smol-í-š <sup>j</sup>	smol-í-l-a	smol-í-t <sup>j</sup>	'tar'	i
	g.	gor'-ú	gor-í-š <sup>j</sup>	gor-é-l-a	gor-é-t <sup>j</sup>	'burn'	e

All these verbal classes except (a), (e) and (g) are productive

Obviously, they allow nominalization

# 2. NOMINALIZATION AND THEME

Being morphologically rich, Russian has many nominalizing and adjectivizing suffixes

Some of them are purely deverbal, others are not:

I preferably use feminine or dative singular endings so as to avoid the surface zeros realizing nominative and/or masculine forms

(5)a. risov-1aa draw TH PAST FSG [she] drew ijrisovb. anu draw TH PPP NMZ DATII drawing risovsj (6) a-1a. a-TH PAST FSG REFL draw [she] showed off krisovb. a draw DIM FSG showing off, posing

On the semantic side both derivations allow for the event readings *and* the result reading For broader spectrum studies of Russian nominalizations see de Valdivia Pujol 2014 on the event/result type and Lychyk 1995, Hippisley 1998 and particularly Naccarato 2017 on agentive nominals

The choice between the two patterns of derivation is stem-based, sometimes both are possible (e.g., *štrixovanie* vs. *štrixovka* 'shading, hatching', the former has the process reading only, but this might be accidental)

The pattern in (5b) is more productive and more regular (less likely to give rise to idiomatic interpretations), very similar to *-ing* in English

All other patterns are more like -al in arrival, -age in stowage, etc.: they block the more productive one and are more idiosyncratic

Two distinctions:

- presence/absence of a theme suffix
- categorial sensitivity

Are they linked?

This talk: a preliminary investigation of Russian deverbal nominalizations as a window into the status of theme suffixes

### 3. THEME-RETAINING NOMINALIZATIONS

It can always be assumed that athematic verbs have a zero theme, if necessary

### 3.1. Theme-retaining event/result nominalizations

Pazelskaya and Tatevosov 2006, Tatevosov 2011, 2013, 2015, Pazelskaya 2009a, b, 2012, Valdivia, Castellví and Taulé 2013, Pereltsvaig 2018, etc.): focus on aspectual characteristics

(7)	a.	<b>pre- obraz-</b> trans-form <i>transformed</i>			n- PPP	a FSG		PPP
	b.	<b>pre- obraz-</b> trans-form <i>transformatio</i>	VRB	TH			u DAT <sub>II</sub>	-ing

Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997: derivation by the combination of the PPP-suffix (which has three surface realizations, [n], [en] and [t]) and the abstract nominalizing suffix -ij- (with an allomorph -ij-):

The underlying form of the surface [n]/[en] and even the distribution of the two allomorphs are subject to debate (see Feldstein 1986, Garde 1998:329-332)

(8)	a.	ot- kry- t- a from cover PPP FSG [is] opened, discovered	PPP
	c.	ot- kry- t- ij- u from cover PPP NMZ DAT <sub>II</sub> discovery	-ing

This **allomorphy** is phonologically determined but not derived by regular phonological rules (Halle 1973, Feldstein 1986, Garde 1998:329-332, Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997) The lack of a theme suffix in (8) is due to the fact that the verb is athematic: the *-t-* allomorph is only found with athematic verbs

The distribution of Grimshaw's (1990) three readings (complex event, simple event, result) depends on the stem (see Pazelskaya 2009a, b, Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997)

The *-ij*- suffix is also used to form abstract nouns on the basis of (a) the abstract nominalizing suffix *-stv*-, (b) compounds and (c) OCS adjectives (rarely, the usual allomorph is *-ij*-):

čuv-stvij-(9) a. sou with feel NMZ NMZ DATI compassion b. uzk-0lobiju narrow LNK forehead MMZ DATII the property of having a narrow forehead zdrav- ijc. u hale NMZ DATII health

Resulting interpretations are semantically transparent, some of the few exceptions are:

(10) a. *imenie* 'manor' ← *imet<sup>j</sup>* 'to possess'
b. *priležanie* 'assiduity, diligence' ← *priležat<sup>j</sup>* 'to adjoin, to lie adjacent to'

Tradition views the PPP-ij complex as a single suffix

**Missing derivational steps**: Russian **secondary imperfectives** do not form PPPs (Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997, Borik and Gehrke 2018), but they can form PPP-*ij* nominals, even though the contribution of the suffix there does not seem to be aspectual, see Comrie 1980, Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997)

Ineffability is attested though for null-derived "theme-changing" secondary imperfectives, which do not allow PPPs (Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997)

PPP-*ij* nominals can be formed from **passive and intransitive verbs** (looks like *priscianic word formation* (Matthews 1972)):

- (11) a. muč-i-t<sup>j</sup> dolor-TH-INF *to torture* 
  - b. muč-i-t<sup>j</sup>-s<sup>j</sup>a dolor-TH-INF-REFL *to suffer*
  - c. muč-0-en-ij-u dolor-TH-PPP-NMZ-DAT<sub>II</sub> suffering
- (12) a. pas-t<sup>j</sup> fall-INF *to fall* 
  - b. pad-en-ij-u fall-PPP-NMZ-DAT<sub>II</sub> suffering

Babby 1993: for both PPPs and event/result nominals "the initial verb's external theta-role is dethematized, and the initial verb stem is converted into a [+N] (nominal) stem"

The issue of missing derivational steps is huge for Russian morphology, but too complicated to deal with here

reflexive

unaccusative

What is relevant for us:

- a given PPP-*ij* nominal can have a complex event, simple event or result reading, or some combination of the three
- they can have idiosyncratic interpretations (as far as I can see, they are always non-eventive)
- secondary imperfectives form only PPP-*ij* nominals and these have only complex event readings (Schoorlemmer 1995 lists some exceptions like *vsxlipyvanie* 'sob')
- the presence of inner aspect prefixes does not require the secondary imperfective suffix for imperfective interpretation and its presence seems to distinguish lexical nuances (e.g., the idiomatic *raspisanie* 'schedule' vs. the predictable *raspisyvanie* 'assigning, painting' from *raspisati/raspisyvati* 'to assign, paint')
- the PPP-ij sequence is purely deverbal (one exception is *obyknovenie* 'habit' from *obyknovennyj* 'usual') and obligatorily retains the theme

This theme-retaining nominalization is very regular and mostly predictable (as well as most recent chronologically)

### 3.2. Theme-retaining agentive nominalizations

Russian also has theme-retaining agentive (*er*) nominals formed with the suffix *-tel*<sup>*j*</sup>-Like English er-nouns, derived nouns can be agentive (cf. *experiencer*) or instrumental (cf. *pressure-cooker*), cf. Paykin 2003 for a recent discussion

(13)	a.	<b>pre- obraz-</b> trans-form <i>transformed</i>		 a FSG	
	b.	<b>pre- obraz-</b> trans-form <i>transformer</i>			-er

The agent suffix  $-tel^{j}$ - is a monomorphemic suffix that is **purely deverbal and added on top** of the theme suffix

Lychyk 1995 notes that there are some denominal *teli*-formations that contain intermediate verbal morphology without there being the corresponding verb, e.g., *doždevateli* 'water sprinkler'  $\leftarrow dožd^{j}$  'rain' (\**doždevati*)

Agentive nominalizations can contain lexical aspect (Aktionsart) prefixes and the secondary imperfective suffix (e.g., *razbryzgivatel<sup>j</sup>* 'sprinkler')

The argument structure of the base is not lost in the derived agentive noun, but quirky case is:

- (14) a. l<sup>j</sup>ubit<sup>j</sup> muzyku love.INF music.ACC *to love music* 
  - b. l<sup>j</sup>ubitel<sup>j</sup> muzyki/\*muzyku love.ER music.GEN/ACC *a music lover*
- (15) a. pravit<sup>j</sup> stranoj rule.INF country.INS *to rule a country* 
  - b. pravitel<sup>j</sup> strany/\*stranoj rule.ER country.GEN/INS *the ruler of the country*

- (16) a. podražat<sup>j</sup> D<sup>j</sup>ureru imitate.INF Durer.DAT *to imitate Durer* 
  - b. podražatel<sup>j</sup> D<sup>j</sup>urera/\*D<sup>j</sup>ureru imitate.ER Durer.ACC/DAT *an imitator of Durer*

Given that two unmarked genitives are not possible in Russian NPs (Comrie 1980; a partitive can combine with a genitive), agentive nouns formed from double-object verbs cannot appear with both arguments:

The interpretation of (17b) suggests that the genitive here is not the thematic direct object, but a possessor

(17)	a.		detej children.ACC <i>hildren mather</i>	mathematics.DAT
	b.		children.GEN	ot: <sup>??</sup> a teacher of children
	c.	teach.ER	matematiki/*r mathematics. <i>A</i> of mathematic	ACC/DAT

d. \*učitel<sup>j</sup> detej matematiki/matematike teach.ER children.GEN mathematics.GEN/DAT

The goal/beneficiary dative cannot be present in any form:

- (18) a. darit<sup>j</sup> podarki det<sup>j</sup>am gift.INF gifts.ACC children.DAT to give gifts to children
  - b. daritel<sup>j</sup> (\*podarkov) (\*det<sup>j</sup>am/\*detej) gift.ER gifts.GEN children.DAT/GEN *donor, benefactor*

It seems that **the argument structure of the verb is suppressed** (this would explain the ban on double genitives), yet **aspectual morphology can still be present** 

Note that the possessive genitive can still be interpreted through the meaning of the verb. How?

Resulting interpretations are semantically transparent, some of the few exceptions are:

- (19) a. *roditel<sup>j</sup>* 'parent'  $\leftarrow$  *rodit<sup>j</sup>* 'to give birth to (a child)'
  - b. *nastojatel<sup>j</sup>* 'abbot'  $\leftarrow$  *nastojat<sup>j</sup>* 'to insist, persist'
  - c. *obyvatel<sup>j</sup>* 'average man, philistine'  $\leftarrow$  no independently attested verbal stem, should be \**obyvat<sup>j</sup>* (from *byvat<sup>j</sup>* 'to be' (habitual) + prefix)

Chronologically, these deverbal nominalizations are the most recent

### **3.3. Intermediate summary**

Thematic nominalizations may retain (event/result nominals) or lose (agentive nominals) the argument structure of the base verb

They are mostly regular both semantically and syntactically and exclusively deverbal (though exceptions exist)

They can contain lexical aspect prefixes and secondary imperfective suffixes (i.e., projections higher than v)

Their derivation can involve missing steps (but this is a general issue for Russian)

## 4. THEME-LACKING NOMINALIZATIONS

The same two types, many more options

Many of the suffixes used for simple nominalization are also used to form compounds (the so-called **parasynthetic compounds**, e.g., *churchgoer*)

# 4.1. Theme-lacking event/result nominalizations

Athematic *ing*-nominalizations can be formed with a variety of suffixes (though none seem to be as productive as the PP-*ij* combination)

They are clearly not purely deverbal

The abstract suffix *-stv-* derives states (20a), abstract properties (20b), group nouns (20c) and also activities (20d):

- (20) a. vdovstvo 'widowhood'  $\leftarrow vdova$  'widow'
  - b. *udobstvo* 'comfort' ← *udobnyj* 'comfortable'
  - c. *kupečestvo* 'merchant class, the state of being a merchant'  $\leftarrow$  *kupec* 'merchant'
  - d. *proizvodstvo* 'production'  $\leftarrow$  *proizvodit*<sup>*j*</sup> 'to produce'

The suffix -*k*- is a diminutive (21a), a feminizer (21b), a deadjectival nominalizer (21c) and a generic nominalizer in principle (21d, e), permitting deverbal nominalization (21f):

- (21) a. my ška 'small mouse'  $\leftarrow my š^{j}$  'mouse'
  - b. *avtor* 'author'  $\leftarrow$  *avtorka* 'a female author'
  - c.  $zel^{j}onka$  'brilliant green'  $\leftarrow zel^{j}onyj$  'green'

  - e. *palka* 'a stick', from a cranberry root
  - f. *peredelka* 'redoing, alteration, also: jolly mess' ← *peredelat<sup>j</sup>* 'to redo' cf. *peredelyvanie* 'redoing' ← *peredelyvat<sup>j</sup>* 'to redo (impf.)'

Derivation by truncation (null derivation, **conversion**) is also possible:

- (22) a. plesk 'splash'  $\leftarrow plesk \cdot a \cdot t^{j}$  'to splash'
  - b. *spusk* 'descent'  $\leftarrow$  *s.pusk-a-t<sup>j</sup>-s<sup>j</sup>a* 'to descend'

Pazelskaya 2009a, b notes that it is not always obvious what the direction of the derivation is, but the presence of purely verbal prefixes (22b) is a clear sign of null derivation

Most Russian prefixes also function as prepositions, and s 'with, from' is no exception, but in nominalizations formed from PPs the complement of the preposition defines the ground, which is clearly not the case in (22b)

Pazelskaya 2009a, b: event/result nominals derived by -*k*- and by -*0*- have the same range of interpretations as those derived by the PPP-*ij* sequence

Corpus studies analyzing the distribution of deverbal nominals derived with -nij-, -k- and -0by tracking and analyzing the occurrences in the corpus of 10 frequent nouns of each type in a situation reading:

- the base can be telic or atelic for all three types
- -0- nomina actionis are mildly preferentially intransitive, while -k- and -nij- ones are preferentially transitive
- for most properties examined (including durative adverbials and adjectives, overt internal argument, the presence of a possessor, ability to control, etc.): no obvious difference between -k- and -nij- nominals

Such nouns can contain verbal prefixes (21f), but not secondary imperfective suffixes Schoorlemmer 1998: Grimshaw's readings all available for various event nominals

## 4.2. Theme-lacking agentive nominalizations

Also a number of suffixes (see Naccarato 2017:63 for a partial list)

Both -0- and -k- suffixes can create agentive nouns, but mostly in compounds:

agent	<i>les-o-rub</i> 'logger' $\leftarrow$ <i>les</i> 'forest' + <i>rub-i-t<sup>j</sup></i> 'to chop'	3) a.	(23)
instrument	<i>led-o-rub</i> 'ice-axe' $\leftarrow$ <i>led</i> 'ice' + <i>rub-i-t<sup>j</sup></i> 'to chop'	b.	
	sam o $u \check{a} k a 'outodideat' ( sam 'calf'   u\check{a} iti 'to study'$	1) 0	(24)

 $sam - o - u\check{c} - k - a$  'autodidact'  $\leftarrow sam$  'self' +  $u\check{c}it^{j}$  'to study (24) a. agent  $m^{j}as-o-rub-k-a$  'meat grinder'  $\leftarrow m^{j}aso$  'meat' + -rub- 'chop.ROOT' b. instrument

The -0- suffix does not create agentive nouns outside of compounds (and while productive, it only applies to a closed class of roots), the -k- suffix does so rarely (and then usually yields instruments rather than agents):

(25)	a.	<i>zaznajka</i> 'conceited person' $\leftarrow za.zna-t^{j}-s^{j}a$ 'to take on airs'	agent
	b.	<i>lejka</i> 'watering pot' $\leftarrow$ <i>li</i> - <i>t<sup>j</sup></i> 'to pour' (root: - <i>lĭj</i> -, cf. imperative <i>lej</i> )	instrument

These suffixes are not category-specific

For -k- it has been shown above. For -0- it is far more complicated because back-formation is often reanalyzed:

This is a very complicated topic. See Sigalov 1986 for some discussion of truncation in Russian

- *fizik* 'psysicist' ← *fizika* 'physics' (26) a.
  - *demokrat* 'democrat'  $\leftarrow$  *demokratija* 'democracy' b.
  - *liberal* 'a liberal' *← liberalizm* 'liberalism' (or *liberalinyj* 'liberal') c.
  - *memorial* 'a memorial'  $\leftarrow$  *memorial*<sup>j</sup>*ny*<sup>j</sup> 'memorial' d.

Lychyk 1995, Naccarato 2019:69: agentive suffixes are often non-category-specific and have broader distribution (true not only for Russian, but also for other languages, cf. Booij 2007):

- (27) a.
- *černec* 'monk' ← *čjornyj* 'black' *borec* 'fighter' ← *borotjsja* 'to fight' b.
  - *londonec* 'Londoner' ← *London* 'London' c.

Important: the suffix -ec- does not create event/result nominals, it is always concrete

Lychyk 1995: the suffix -*ščik*- yields mostly nouns denoting workers or specialists in the field determined by the stem, which can be  $[\pm V]$ 

He also notes that many deverbal -ščik- nouns have an intermediate nominal stage, and I think this is right

- (28) a. *ogranščik* 'precious stone cutter'  $\leftarrow ogranit^{j}$  'to facet' b.
  - *detektivščik* 'a mystery novel writer'  $\leftarrow$  *detektiv* 'a mystery novel' c.

As with *-telj*-nouns, the base argument structure is not available in the derived agentive noun How accidental is it that these suffixes are athematic?

#### 4.3. Intermediate summary

Theme-lacking nominals do not seem to be semantically different from athematic nominals in areas where they intersect:

- core interpretations: agent (developing into instrument) and event/result
- $\triangleright$ athematic nominals have other meanings available as well (e.g., place)

denominal

deadjectival

Athematic nominals cannot be formed from secondary imperfectives in -yv-

-0- secondary imperfectives are allowed, cf. *zapusk* 'launching' from *zapuskat<sup>j</sup>* 'to launch' (imperfective, the perfective form is *zapustit<sup>j</sup>*)

Theme-retaining nominals are strictly deverbal while athematic nominals are category-neutral

The opposite is not true: the suffix *-un-* is **strictly deverbal and athematic** yielding agentive (Vinogradov 1952:222) and instrumental (Vinogradov 1952:238) nominals: One exception (Vinogradov 1952:222): *gorbun* 'a hunchback' from *gorb* 'a hump'

(29) a. govor-un 'talker, chatterbox'  $\leftarrow govor-i-t^{j}$  'to talk' (not \* $govor^{j}un$ ) b. kol-un 'wood-chopper'  $\leftarrow kol-o-t^{j}$  'to prick, shop'

c. *beg-un* 'runner' (human or technical)  $\leftarrow$  *beg-a-t<sup>j</sup>* 'to run'

Strictly deverbal derivation can be athematic, which seems to entail that it is not the thematic suffix that creates the verb

Vinogradov 1952 lists the suffix -un- as non-productive, but Czerwiński 2015 lists one recent derivation, nesun 'office thief' from nesti 'to carry'

### 5. AUGMENTED ATHEMATIC SUFFIXES

Paykin 2003: with stems that cannot take the suffix -*ščik*- for phonological reasons, the suffix -*lščik*- is used:

(30) a.  $sušit^{j}$  'to dry'  $\rightarrow *sušščik, sušil^{j}ščik$  'drier' (a person) b.  $nosit^{j}$  'to dry'  $\rightarrow *nosščik, nosil^{j}ščik$  'a porter, carrier'

This -*l*<sup>*i*</sup>- is far from innocent: it requires the verbal theme

In fact, it does not seem to be phonologically conditioned:

- (31) a.  $bol-e-t^{j}$  'to support, be a fan of'  $\rightarrow bol-e-l^{j}\check{s}\check{c}ik$  'to support, be a fan of' b.  $smol-it^{j}$  'to coat with tar'  $\rightarrow smol-i-l^{j}\check{s}\check{c}ik$ ,  $smol^{j}\check{s}\check{c}ik$  'a tarring professional'
  - c.  $smol-it^{j}$  'to smoke (a cigarette)'  $\rightarrow smol-i-l^{j}scik$  'a chain-smoker'

The nominalizing suffix *-nik-* also has a *-l<sup>i</sup>nik-* variant, as do *-ec-* (*-lec-*) and *-k-* (*-lk-*): The non-productive place-denoting suffix *-n<sup>i</sup>-* (taking bases denoting professionals and returning the place of the relevant professional activity) becomes *-l<sup>i</sup>n<sup>i</sup>-* with verbal bases

- (32) a. okuč-nik 'hiller'  $\leftarrow okuč-i-t^{j}$  'to earth up' b.  $budi-l^{j}-nik$  'alarm clock'  $\leftarrow bud-i-t^{j}$  'to wake up'
- (33) a. torgov-ec 'merchant' ← torgov-a-t<sup>j</sup> 'to trade'
  b. skita-l-ec 'wanderer' ← skit-a-t<sup>j</sup>-s<sup>j</sup>a 'to wander'
- (34) a. moj-k-a 'sink, washer'  $\leftarrow my-t^{j}$  'to wash' (cf. imperative moj) b. gre-l-k-a 'hot-water bottle'  $\leftarrow gre-t^{j}$  'to warm up'

The -l- augment is in fact the ancient active past participle (current past tense) suffix

There is no semantic difference between *-linik-* and *-nik-*, or *-liščik-* and *-ščik-*, or *-lk-* and *-k-*But as a result, secondary imperfective stems become possible:

- (35) a. pro.céž- iv- a- l<sup>j</sup>-ščik- u ← pro.céž-iv-a-t<sup>j</sup> 'to strain' (PRF: pro.ced-i-t<sup>j</sup>) strain IMPF TH NMZ DAT<sub>II</sub> strainer (human)
  b. s.ši- v- á- lk- a ← s.ši-v-a-t<sup>j</sup> 'to sew together' (PRF: s.ši-t<sup>j</sup>)
  - b. s.ši- v- á- lk- a  $\leftarrow$  s.ši-v-a-t<sup>j</sup> 'to sew together' (PRF: *s.ši-t<sup>j</sup>*) with sew IMPF TH NMZ NOM *a machine for sewing things together*

### Descriptively, deverbal nominalization containing a thematic suffix appears to require an intermediate step that is at least historically non-finite

Apparent exception: the agentive suffix  $-tel^{i}$  (the standard view is that it is a cognate of the Latin  $-t\bar{o}r$ -, from PIE, see Naccarato 2019:62)

Possibility: -tel<sup>j</sup>- is derived from the infinitive (and the double [t] is degeminated)

Evidence: athematic verbs with infinitives not ending in [t<sup>j</sup>]

Only two of them combine with -tel<sup>j</sup>-:

(36) a.  $bl^{j}usti$  'to guard'  $(-bl^{j}ud-) \rightarrow bl^{j}ustitel^{j}$  'keeper, guardian' b. rasti 'to grow'  $(-rost-) \rightarrow rastitel^{j}nyj$  'vegetal' (via the missing stem \*rastitel'; there is also the transitive verb  $rastit^{j}$  'to grow', but it is unlikely to be the base)

As strange as it may seem, thematic nominalization seems to correlate with a missing step

### 6. CONCLUSION AND FURTHER QUESTIONS

Three types of deverbal nominalization in Russian:

- purely deverbal suffixes: -tel<sup>j</sup>- and PPP-ij, which attach on top of the theme, and -un-, which doesn't
- non-categorizing suffixes: -0-, -k-, etc. (general purpose nominalizers with vague semantics) and -nik-, -ščik-, -ec- (with agentive semantics only)
- $\blacktriangleright$  mixed nominalization: a combination of suffixes (-*l*-+-*nik*-, -*ščik* or -*k*-)

Russian null-derived nominalizations seem to be deverbal (we know this from the presence of verbal prefixes), yet athematic (and the lack of a theme cannot be attributed to phonology)

Thematic nominalizations can contain more material (secondary imperfective suffix), but the resulting range of meanings is the same (Pazelskaya and Tatevosov 2006, Tatevosov 2011, 2013, 2015, Pazelskaya 2009a, b, 2012, etc.)

What seems to emerge as the full picture is that **the presence of a theme suffix necessitates the presence of another suffix between the theme and the nominalizer** 

Babby 1993 suggests that these suffixes are deverbalizers, and true nominalizers are added on top

#### We still don't know what the presence of a theme does

Issues for future work:

- $\blacktriangleright$  is there another way of testing if the suffix -*tel*<sup>*j*</sup>- is built on the infinitive stem?
- ▶ why do we need the -*l* and PPP augments? What is the difference between them?
- null-derived nominalizations are overwhelmingly event/result ones when simple yet permit agentive interpretation in compounding. Why?
- de-participial (i.e., PPP-*ij*) event/result nominalizations are interestingly restricted when it comes to secondary imperfectives derived with the zero allomorph of the SI suffix (Sadler, Spencer and Zaretskaya 1997)
- derivation with a missing step remains a huge puzzle (apparent extension of the circumfix issue, except that the two suffixes are contiguous)

#### 7. **References**

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