



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

50th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea
10 – 13 September 2017
University of Zurich, Switzerland

- of the Russian Expeditions in 2012-2014) // *Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore*. 66: 15–36.
- Novik, Sobolev 2016b — Novik, Alexander A.; Sobolev, Andrey N. Studime etnolingvistike në Himarë dhe në zonën e Vurgut [Ethnolinguistic Research in Himara and Vorgu region] // *Albanohellenica. Years XVI-XVII. (2015). Nr. 6. Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference of Greek-Albanian / Albanian-Greek Studies (Tirana, March 27th-28th, 2015)*. <http://albanohellenica.wix.com>
- Rusakov, Sobolev 2008 — Rusakov, Alexander Yu.; Sobolev, Andrey N. *Substancial'no-funkcional'naya teoriya balkanskogo yazykovogo soyuza i slav'anskie yazyki [Substantial and functional theory of Balkan Sprachbund and Slavic Languages]*. Paper presented at XIV International Congress of Slavists in Ohrid, Macedonia, St. Petersburg: Nauka, 2008.
- Sobolev 2015 — Sobolev, A. N. Mrkovichi (i Gorana): Iazyki i dialekty chernogorskogo Primoria v kontekste noveishikh balkanisticheskikh issledovaniy» [Mrkovići (and Gorana): Languages and dialects of Montenegro sea area and latest Balkan studies]. *Sprache und Kultur der Albaner. Zeitliche und räumliche Dimensionen. Akten der 5. Deutsch-albanischen kulturwissenschaftlichen Tagung. (Buçimas bei Pogradec, Albanien, 5. – 8. Juni 2014)*. Demiraj, B. (Hrsg.). Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2015. P. 533–556.
- Sobolev 2017 — Sobolev, Andrey N. K izucheniyu yazykov simbioticheskikh soobshchestv Zapadnykh Balkan (grecheskii i albanskii idiomy sela Palasa v kraine Himara, Albania) [Languages in the Western Balkan symbiotic societies: Greek and Albanian in Himara, Albania] // *Vestnik SPbGU. Series 9. Language and literature*. 2017: 3. In print.
- Sobolev 2018 — Sobolev, Andrey N. Slavic dialects in the Balkans: unified and diverse, recipient and donor // Motoki, Nomachi and Danylenko, Andriy (Eds.). *Slavic in the Language Map of Europe*. Berlin; New York: Mouton de Gruyter. In preparation.

Niches in derivational morphology: specialisation of suffixes within the formation of Portuguese deverbal nouns

Alexandra Soares Rodrigues

(Escola Superior de Educação – Instituto Politécnico de Bragança, CELGA-ILTEC – Universidade de Coimbra)

The aim of this paper is to study the specialisation of affixes following the same word-formation rule/schema. The derivational morphology of Portuguese presents a multiplicity of suffixes that create/form deverbal nouns with the general meaning of 'event' (Rodrigues 2008). Those suffixes may be exemplified by *-ção* (*avaliação* 'evaluation'), *-mento* (*congelamento* 'freeze'), *-dura* (*raladura* 'event of grating'), *-agem* (*aterragem* 'landing'), *-nça* (*cobrança* 'levy'), *-ão* (*empurrão* 'push'), *-ço* (*falhanço* 'failure'), *-ido* (*ladrido* 'barking'), *-ice* (*coscuvilhice* 'gossip'), etc.

Apparently, those suffixes are rivals, because all of them generate the same kind of products from the same kind of bases. According to the Darwinist perspective presented by Lindsay & Aronoff (2013), Aronoff & Lindsay (2014, 2015) and Aronoff (2016), two affixes that are in mutual competition would either lead to the annihilation of one of them, or they may survive in the language with the condition that they find a niche, *i.e.* a specialisation.

In this paper, we will focus on the differences between the suffixes *-dura*, *-mento* and *-ido*, specifically with respect to their selectional restrictions and the secondary meanings of 'state' and

'concrete result' of the respective deverbal nouns. The analysis of these meanings is based on the exploration of corpora (Corpus do Português, Corpus de Referência do Português Contemporâneo, Corpus Informatizado do Português Medieval). Although the three suffixes produce event nouns (in some cases from the same verbal base), the meanings of 'concrete result' of products with *-dura* mainly designate 'wounds', 'portions' and 'residues' (*maçadura* 'bruise', *envergadura* 'wingspan', *serradura* 'sawdust'). Nouns with the suffix *-ido* indicate sounds (*rosnido* 'snarl', *ronquido* 'snore').

These properties are the result of specialisations of each one of the suffixes that do not characterise the other suffixes.

Apart from the meaning differences, the niches of the suffixes are also based on their selectional restrictions: *-ido* only operates with unergative verbs of emission of sound; *-dura* shows a preference towards verbs of causation with the meaning of 'to reduce to fragments', which goes back to medieval Portuguese, as observable in the analysis of the lexicon of veterinary treatises, as Giraldo (1318).

The analysis of the niches or specialisations of suffixes with the same word formation rule/schema is consistent with the idea that word formation is a dynamic domain which is dependent on patterns that speakers deduce from the language usage. A word-formation rule/schema may be seen as a macro-pattern, for which the relation between the category of the base, the category of the product and the meaning of the latter build the pattern. In this sense, event deverbal nouns correspond to a macro-pattern. Within those macro-patterns, micro-patterns may be observed. Those micro-patterns correspond to the niches of each suffix operating within the same macro-pattern. Micro-patterns are built, among other factors, according to selectional restrictions that regulate the adjunction of affixes to bases and according to the possible general and secondary meanings of the products of each one of the suffixes. For instance, the specialisation of the suffix *-ido* concerning both the meaning of 'sound' and its selectional restrictions constitute a micro-pattern within the macro-pattern of event deverbal nouns.

References

- Aronoff, Mark (2016): Competition and the lexicon. In: Annibale Elia, Claudio Iacobini, & Miriam Voghera (eds.): *Livelli di Analisi e fenomeni di interfaccia*. Atti del XLVII Congresso Internazionale della Società di Linguistica Italiana. Roma: Bulzoni Editore, 39–52.
- Aronoff, Mark & Mark Lindsay (2014): Productivity, blocking, and lexicalization. In: Rochelle Lieber & Pavol Štekauer (eds.): *The Oxford handbook of derivational morphology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 67–83.
- Aronoff, Mark & Mark Lindsay (2015): Partial organization in languages: la langue est un système où la plupart se tient. *Proceedings of Décembrettes 8*. (<https://linguistics.stonybrook.edu/faculty/mark.aronoff>).
- Mestre Giraldo ([1318] 1909): *Livro d'alveitaria*. In: Pereira, Gabriel (ed.): *Revista Lusitana* XII. 1–60.
- Lindsay, Mark & Mark Aronoff (2013): Natural selection in self-organizing morphological systems. In: Fabio Montermini; Gilles Boyé & Jesse Tseng (eds.): *Morphology in Toulouse: Selected Proceedings of Décembrettes 7*. München: Lincom, 133–153.
- Rodrigues, Alexandra Soares (2008). *Formação de substantivos deverbais sufixados em português*. München: Lincom.

Corpora

- Corpus de Referência do Português Contemporâneo [<http://www.clul.ul.pt/pt/recursos/183-reference-corpus-of-contemporary-portuguese-crpc>]
- Corpus do português [www.corpusdoportugues.org]
- Corpus Informatizado do Português Medieval [<http://cipm.fcsh.unl.pt/>]