

JURGIS PAKERYS

Vilnius University
jurgis.pakerys@flf.vu.lt**Derivational adaptation of borrowed adjectives
in Latvian and Lithuanian¹**

Processes of derivational adaptation of borrowings can be classified into the following main strategies (cf. Pakerys 2015): (1) no derivational morphology is involved (cf. direct insertion in Wohlgemuth 2009); (2) derivational affixes of the (pre-)donor language are substituted by the ones of the recipient language (cf. indirect insertion in Wohlgemuth 2009); (3) native derivational affixes are added to the borrowed stems (cf. indirect insertion in Wohlgemuth 2009); (4) derivational markers of the (pre-)donor language are truncated.

I used the dictionaries of internationalisms in Latvian (*TSSV*) and Lithuanian (*Interleksis*) to compile a database of adjectival borrowings to see to what extent the strategies mentioned above are employed. Preliminary results show that modern Latvian favors strategy (1) where ca. 58% of the loans are assigned to inflection class in -s (e.g. *precīz-s* ← German *präzis* ← French *précis*) and ca. 40% (or even less) of the cases can be attributed to strategy (2) when suffixes of the donor language are substituted by native -isk-s, which historically usually replaces German -isch, e.g. *aromāt-isk-s* ← *aromat-isch*. From the synchronic point of view, quite a number of these adjectives can be argued to be derivationally transparent if corresponding nouns were also borrowed, cf. *aromāt-s*. There seem to be no clear cases when strategy (3) is applied so that the suffixes of German (or Slavic) origin would be kept intact, and direct cases of truncation (4) are rare, e.g. *kalendār-s* ← German *kalendar-isch* (but note that *kalendār-isk-s* is also attested²).

In contrast to Latvian, Lithuanian strongly prefers strategy (2) by employing suffixes -in-is (ca. 70%) and -išk-as (ca. 12%) which replace Slavic suffixes (which in a number of cases correspond to German or French ones), e.g. *analit-in-is* Polish *analit-yczn-y* or Russian *analit-ičesk-ij* (alongside German *analyt-isch* and French *analyt-ique*), *elegant-išk-as* ← Polish *elegancki* [*elegant-sk-i*] or Russian *èlegant-n-yj* (alongside non-suffixed German *elegant* ← French *élégant*). If corresponding nouns were also borrowed, they can be treated as synchronic bases for these suffixal adjectives, e.g. *akrobat-in-is* : *akrobat-as*, *diplomat-išk-as* : *diplomat-as*. Assignment to inflection class in -us (strategy [1]) constitutes ca. 14% of the cases, e.g. *formal-us*, if one agrees that this (and other similar adjectives) directly reflects German *formal*, French *formal* or Latin *formalis* (note, however, that a number of instances in this group can be a result of later suffix truncation, cf. *formal-in-is*, -*išk-as* attested in earlier stages of standard Lithuanian³). There are no clear cases of strategy (3) (with the suffixes of Slavic or Germanic origin being preserved) and the truncation of suffixes (4) does not seem to be applied directly (cf. indirect [later] truncation in, e.g., *centr-in-is* which eventually replaced earlier *centr-al-in-is*).

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² Source: google.lv.

³ Sources: *LKŽe*, google.lt.

Sources

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References

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