

# Comparing Slavic Comparatives

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# Outline

Introduction

Positive degree

Comparative degree

Simple comparative adjectives

Complex comparative adjectives

Analysis

Ukrainian

Polish

Belarusian

Conclusions

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## Introduction

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# Introduction: simple adjectives

	root	AGR	translation
UKR	čyst	yj	
BEL	čyst	y	'clean'
POL	czyst	y	

# Introduction: simple adjectives

	root	AGR	translation
UKR	čyst	yj	
BEL	čyst	y	'clean'
POL	czyst	y	
UKR	doroh	yj	
BEL	darah	i	'expensive'
POL	drog	i	

# Introduction: complex adjectives

	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	xolod		yj	
BEL	xalod	n	y	'cold'
POL	chłod		y	

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	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	xolod		yj	
BEL	xalod	n	y	'cold'
POL	chłod		y	
UKR	korot		yj	
BEL	karot	k	i	'short'
POL	krót		i	

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	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	xolod		yj	
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POL	chłod		y	
UKR	korot		yj	
BEL	karot	k	i	'short'
POL	krót		i	
UKR	vys		yj	
BEL	vys	ok	i	'tall'
POL	wys		i	

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POS: root + AUG + AGR  
CMPR: root + AUG + CMPR + AGR  
CMPR: root + CMPR + AGR
- ▶ 2 comparative allomorphs

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- ▶ morphology in Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Polish qualitative adjectives
- ▶ adjectives that are morphologically complex:  
POS: root + AUG + AGR  
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CMPR: root + CMPR + AGR
- ▶ 2 comparative allomorphs
- ▶ 3 augments

# Aims of this talk

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- ▶ to account for the allomorphy of comparative suffixes

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- ▶ to account for the allomorphy of comparative suffixes
- ▶ to account for the behaviour of augments in the comparative

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**-n** augment

## *-n* augment

- ▶ very productive

## *-n* augment

- ▶ very productive
- ▶ an adjectivizer

## *-n* augment

- ▶ very productive
- ▶ an adjectivizer
- ▶ derives loan adjectives

# Adjectives with *-n*: Ukrainian

## Adjectives with *-n*: Ukrainian

noun	adjective	translation
xolod 'cold'	xolod- <b>n</b> -yj	'cold'
rozum 'mind'	rozum- <b>n</b> -yj	'clever'
*pov	pov- <b>n</b> -yj	'full'
*militar	militar- <b>n</b> -yj	'military'

# Adjectives with *-n*: Belarusian

## Adjectives with *-n*: Belarusian

noun	adjective	translation
volja 'freedom'	volj- <b>n</b> -y	'free'
huk 'sound'	huč- <b>n</b> -y	'loud'
*pou	pou- <b>n</b> -y	'full'
*dalikat	dalikat- <b>n</b> -y	'tactful'

## Adjectives with *-n*: Polish

## Adjectives with *-n*: Polish

noun	adjective	translation
barwa 'colour'	barw- <b>n</b> -y	'colourful'
głos 'voice'	głoś- <b>n</b> -y	'loud'
*jas	jas- <b>n</b> -y	'bright'
*subtel	subtel- <b>n</b> -y	'subtle'

## **-k** augment

- ▶ an adjectivizer

## *-k* augment

- ▶ an adjectivizer
- ▶ less productive

## -k augment

- ▶ an adjectivizer
- ▶ less productive
- ▶ rarely derives loan adjectives

# Adjectives with **-k**: Ukrainian

## Adjectives with **-k**: Ukrainian

noun	ADJ	translation
solod 'malt'	solod- <b>k</b> -yj	'sweet'
dzvin 'bell'	dzvin- <b>k</b> -yj	'resonant'
slyzj 'slime'	slyzj- <b>k</b> -yj	'slippery'
*bryd	bryd- <b>k</b> -yj	'ugly'

# Adjectives with **-k**: Belarusian

## Adjectives with **-k**: Belarusian

noun	ADJ	translation
solad 'malt'	salod- <b>k</b> -i	'sweet'
niz 'bottom'	niz- <b>k</b> -i	'low'
*bryd	bryd- <b>k</b> -i	'ugly'
*karot	karot- <b>k</b> -i	'short'

# Adjectives with **-k**: Polish

## Adjectives with **-k**: Polish

noun	ADJ	translation
słód 'malt'	słod- <b>k-i</b>	'sweet'
*blis	blis- <b>k-i</b>	'close'
*brzyd	brzyd- <b>k-i</b>	'ugly'
*krót	krót- <b>k-i</b>	'short'

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## *-ok* augment

- ▶ an adjectivizer
- ▶ unproductive: only 4 adjectives
- ▶ doesn't derive loan adjectives

## Adjectives with *-ok*: Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Polish

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	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	hlyb		yj	
BEL	hlyb	ok	i	'deep'
POL	głęb		i	

## Adjectives with *-ok*: Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Polish

	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	hlyb		yj	
BEL	hlyb	ok	i	'deep'
POL	głęb		i	
UKR	šyr		yj	
BEL	šyr	ok	i	'wide'
POL	szer		i	

## Adjectives with *-ok*: Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Polish

	root	AUG	AGR	translation
UKR	hlyb		yj	
BEL	hlyb	ok	i	'deep'
POL	głęb		i	
UKR	šyr		yj	
BEL	šyr	ok	i	'wide'
POL	szer		i	
UKR	vys		yj	
BEL	vys	ok	i	'tall'
POL	wys		i	

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UKR	hlyb		yj	
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UKR	šyr		yj	
BEL	šyr	ok	i	'wide'
POL	szer		i	
UKR	vys		yj	
BEL	vys	ok	i	'tall'
POL	wys		i	
UKR	dal		yj	
BEL	dal	ek	i	'far'
POL	dal		i	

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# Comparative Slavic suffixes

PROTO-SLAVIC	*-ej̊s	*-j̊s
OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC	-ej̊š	-j̊š
UKRAINIAN	-iš	-š
BELARUSIAN	-ejš	-š
POLISH	-ejsz	-sz

# Comparative Slavic suffixes

	M1	M2
UKRAINIAN	-i	-š
BELARUSIAN	-ej	-š
POLISH	-ej	-sz

## Simple comparatives: Ukrainian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. važlyv-yj	važlyv-i-š-yj	-	'important'

## Simple comparatives: Ukrainian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. važlyv-yj	važlyv-i-š-yj	-	'important'
2. čyst-yj	čyst-i-š-yj	-	'clean'

## Simple comparatives: Ukrainian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. važlyv-yj	važlyv-i-š-yj	-	'important'
2. čyst-yj	čyst-i-š-yj	-	'clean'
3. dešev-yj	-	dešev-š-yj	'cheap'

## Simple comparatives: Ukrainian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. važlyv-yj	važlyv-i-š-yj	-	'important'
2. čyst-yj	čyst-i-š-yj	-	'clean'
3. dešev-yj	-	dešev-š-yj	'cheap'
4. doroh-yj	-	dorož-č-yj	'expensive'

## Simple comparatives: Ukrainian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. važlyv-yj	važlyv-i-š-yj	-	'important'
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3. dešev-yj	-	dešev-š-yj	'cheap'
4. doroh-yj	-	dorož-č-yj	'expensive'

the suffix -č is the phonological alternant of -š (Vyshnevska 2022)

## Simple comparatives: Polish

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. szczupły	szczupl-ej-sz-y	-	'slim'
2. twardy	-	tward-sz-y	'hard'
3. miły	-	mil-sz-y	'nice'
4. zły	-	gor-sz-y	'bad'

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej-š-y	-	'new'

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej-š-y	-	'new'
2. viasjol-y	viesal-ej-š-y	-	'merry'

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej-š-y	-	'new'
2. viasjol-y	viesal-ej-š-y	-	'merry'
3. bahat-y	bahats-ej-š-y	-	'rich'

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POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej-š-y	-	'new'
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3. bahat-y	bahats-ej-š-y	-	'rich'
4. dobr-y	-	lep-š-y	'good'

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian

POS	CMPR M1-M2	CMPR M2	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej-š-y	-	'new'
2. viasjol-y	viesal-ej-š-y	-	'merry'
3. bahat-y	bahats-ej-š-y	-	'rich'
4. dobr-y	-	lep-š-y	'good'

the CMPR suffix is always stressed (Mayo 1993: 908)

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian

POS	CMPR M1	translation
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POS	CMPR M1	translation
1. nov-y	nav-ej	'new'
2. viasjol-y	viesal-ej	'merry'
3. bahat-y	bahats-ej	'rich'
4. dobr-y	dabr-ej	'good'

## Simple comparatives: Belarusian adjs and advs

*bahaty* 'rich'

- (1) a. bahats-ej-š-y mužčyna  
rich-M1-M2-AGR man

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*bahaty* 'rich'

- (1) a. bahats-ej-š-y mužčyna  
rich-M1-M2-AGR man
- b. het-y mužčyna bahats-ej-š-y za mjane  
this-AGR man rich-M1-M2-AGR than me

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this-AGR man rich-M1-M2-AGR than me
- c. \*bahats-ej mužčyna  
rich-M1 man

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*bahaty* 'rich'

- (1) a. bahats-ej-š-y mužčyna  
rich-M1-M2-AGR man
- b. het-y mužčyna bahats-ej-š-y za mjane  
this-AGR man rich-M1-M2-AGR than me
- c. \*bahats-ej mužčyna  
rich-M1 man
- d. het-y mužčyna bahats-ej za mjane  
this-AGR man rich-M1 than me

## Comparatives with *-n*: Ukrainian

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
keeping <i>-n</i>	xolod- <b>n</b> -yj	xolod- <b>n</b> -i-š-yj	'cold'
	rozum- <b>n</b> -yj	rozum- <b>n</b> -i-š-yj	'clever'
	pov- <b>n</b> -yj	pov- <b>n</b> -i-š-yj	'full'
	militar- <b>n</b> -yj	militar- <b>n</b> -i-š-yj	'military'

## Comparatives with *-n*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADJ	translation
keeping <i>-n</i>	volj- <b>n</b> -y	valj- <b>n-ej-š</b> -y	'free'
	huč- <b>n</b> -y	huč- <b>n-ej-š</b> -y	'loud'
	dalikat- <b>n</b> -y	dalikat- <b>n-ej-š</b> -y	'tactful'
	pou- <b>n</b> -y	pau- <b>n-ej-š</b> -y	'full'

## Comparatives with *-n*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADV	translation
keeping <i>-n</i>	volj- <b>n</b> -y	valj- <b>n-ej</b>	'free'
	huč- <b>n</b> -y	huč- <b>n-ej</b>	'loud'
	dalikat- <b>n</b> -y	dalikat- <b>n-ej</b>	'tactful'
	pou- <b>n</b> -y	pau- <b>n-ej</b>	'full'

## Comparatives with *-n*: Polish

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
keeping <i>-n</i>	barw- <b>n</b> -y	barw- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'colourful'
	głoś- <b>n</b> -y	głoś- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'loud'
	mar- <b>n</b> -y	mar- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'miserable'
	jas- <b>n</b> -y	jas- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'bright'

## Comparatives with *-n*: Polish

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
keeping <i>-n</i>	barw- <b>n</b> -y	barw- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'colourful'
	głoś- <b>n</b> -y	głoś- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'loud'
	mar- <b>n</b> -y	mar- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'miserable'
	jas- <b>n</b> -y	jas- <b>ni-ej-sz</b> -y	'bright'

*-i* belongs together with the *-n* augment, and not with the CMPR suffix (Wiland 2021)

## Possible patterns with *-n*

	POS	CMPR	language
Ia	root-n	root-M1	<i>unattested</i>
Ib	root-n	root-M2	<i>unattested</i>
Ic	root-n	root-M1-M2	<i>unattested</i>
IIa	root-n	root-n-M1	Belarusian
IIb	root-n	root-n-M2	<i>unattested</i>
IIc	root-n	root-n-M1-M2	Ukrainian, Polish, Belarusian

## Comparatives with *-k*: Ukrainian

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	korot- <b>k</b> -yj	korot- <b>š</b> -yj	'short'
	solod- <b>k</b> -yj	solod- <b>š</b> -yj	'sweet'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Ukrainian

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	korot- <b>k</b> -yj	korot- <b>š</b> -yj	'short'
	solod- <b>k</b> -yj	solod- <b>š</b> -yj	'sweet'
keeping <i>-k</i>	bryd- <b>k</b> -yj	bryd- <b>k-i-š</b> -yj	'ugly'
	dzvin- <b>k</b> -yj	dzvin- <b>k-i-š</b> -yj	'voiced'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADJ	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	bliz- <b>k</b> -i	bliž- <b>ej</b> -š-y	'close'
	salod- <b>k</b> -i	salod-š-y	'sweet'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADJ	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	bliz- <b>k</b> -i	bliž- <b>ej</b> -š-y	'close'
	salod- <b>k</b> -i	salod-š-y	'sweet'
keeping <i>-k</i>	glad- <b>k</b> -i	glad-č- <b>ej</b> -š-y	'smooth'
	xut- <b>k</b> -i	xut-č- <b>ej</b> -š-y	'fast'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADV	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	bliz- <b>k</b> -i	bliž- <b>e</b> j	'close'
	salod- <b>k</b> -i	saladz- <b>e</b> j	'sweet'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Belarusian

pattern	POS	CMPR ADV	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	bliz- <b>k</b> -i	bliž- <b>e</b> j	'close'
	salod- <b>k</b> -i	saladz- <b>e</b> j	'sweet'
keeping <i>-k</i>	glad- <b>k</b> -i	glad-č- <b>e</b> j	'smooth'
	xut- <b>k</b> -i	xut-č- <b>e</b> j	'fast'

## Comparatives with *-k*: Polish

pattern	POS	CMPR	translation
losing <i>-k</i>	blis- <b>k</b> -i	bliż- <b>SZ</b> -y	'close'
	wąs- <b>k</b> -i	węż- <b>SZ</b> -y	'narrow'
	słod- <b>k</b> -i	słod- <b>SZ</b> -y	'sweet'
	gład- <b>k</b> -i	gład- <b>SZ</b> -y	'smooth'
	cien- <b>k</b> -i	cien- <b>SZ</b> -y	'thin'
	szyb- <b>k</b> -i	szyb- <b>SZ</b> -y	'fast'

## Possible patterns with *-k*

	POS	CMPR	language
Ia	root-k	root-M1	Belarusian
Ib	root-k	root-M2	Ukrainian, Polish
Ic	root-k	root-M1-M2	Belarusian
IIa	root-k	root-k-M1	Belarusian
IIb	root-k	root-k-M2	<i>unattested</i>
IIc	root-k	root-k-M1-M2	Ukrainian, Belarusian

## Comparatives with *-ok*

	POS	CMPR	translation
UKR	hlyb- <b>ok</b> -yj	hlyb- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	głęb- <b>ok</b> -i	głęb- <b>sz</b> -y	'deep'
BEL	glyb- <b>ok</b> -i	glyb- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	

## Comparatives with *-ok*

	POS	CMPR	translation
UKR	hlyb- <b>ok</b> -yj	hlyb- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	głęb- <b>ok</b> -i	głęb- <b>sz</b> -y	'deep'
BEL	glyb- <b>ok</b> -i	glyb- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	šyr- <b>ok</b> -yj	šyr- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	szer- <b>ok</b> -i	szer- <b>sz</b> -y	'wide'
BEL	šyr- <b>ok</b> -i	šyr- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	

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	POS	CMPR	translation
UKR	hlyb- <b>ok</b> -yj	hlyb- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	głęb- <b>ok</b> -i	głęb- <b>sz</b> -y	'deep'
BEL	glyb- <b>ok</b> -i	glyb- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	šyr- <b>ok</b> -yj	šyr- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	szer- <b>ok</b> -i	szer- <b>sz</b> -y	'wide'
BEL	šyr- <b>ok</b> -i	šyr- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	vys- <b>ok</b> -yj	výš- <b>č</b> -yj	
POL	wys- <b>ok</b> -i	wyż- <b>sz</b> -y	'tall'
BEL	vys- <b>ok</b> -i	výš- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	

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UKR	hlyb- <b>ok</b> -yj	hlyb- <b>š</b> -yj	
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BEL	glyb- <b>ok</b> -i	glyb- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	šyr- <b>ok</b> -yj	šyr- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	szer- <b>ok</b> -i	szer- <b>sz</b> -y	'wide'
BEL	šyr- <b>ok</b> -i	šyr- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	vys- <b>ok</b> -yj	výš- <b>č</b> -yj	
POL	wys- <b>ok</b> -i	wyż- <b>sz</b> -y	'tall'
BEL	vys- <b>ok</b> -i	výš- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	
UKR	dal- <b>ek</b> -yj	dalj- <b>š</b> -yj	
POL	dal- <b>ek</b> -i	dalj- <b>sz</b> -y	'far'
BEL	dal- <b>ek</b> -i	dal- <b>ej</b> - <b>š</b> -y	

## Possible patterns with *-ok*

	POS	CMPR	language
Ia	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>M1</b>	Belarusian
Ib	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>M2</b>	Ukrainian, Polish
Ic	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>M1-M2</b>	Belarusian
IIa	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>ok-M1</b>	<i>unattested</i>
IIb	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>ok-M2</b>	<i>unattested</i>
IIc	root- <b>ok</b>	root- <b>ok-M1-M2</b>	<i>unattested</i>

## Patterns: overview

POS	CMPR	language
root-n	root-n-M1	Belarusian
root-n	root-n-M1-M2	Ukrainian, Polish, Belarusian
root-k	root-M1	Belarusian
root-k	root-M2	Ukrainian, Polish
root-k	root-M1-M2	Belarusian
root-k	root-k-M1	Belarusian
root-k	root-k-M1-M2	Ukrainian, Belarusian
root-ok	root-M1	Belarusian
root-ok	root-M2	Ukrainian, Polish
root-ok	root-M1-M2	Belarusian

# Interim Summary

augments behave differently:

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- ▶ *-n* is always kept in the comparative
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- ▶ *-ok* is always dropped in the comparative

# Outline

Introduction

Positive degree

Comparative degree

Simple comparative adjectives

Complex comparative adjectives

Analysis

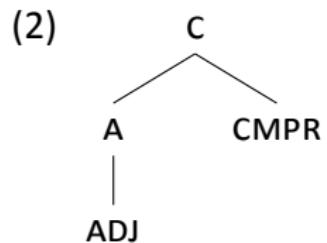
Ukrainian

Polish

Belarusian

Conclusions

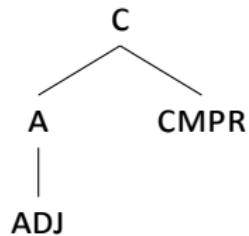
# Comparative heads



Bobaljik (2012)

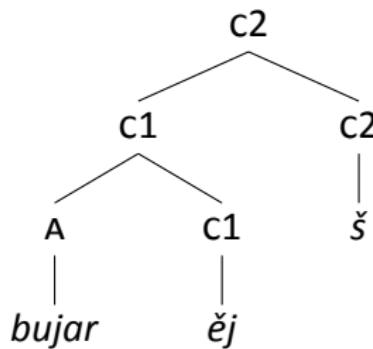
## Comparative heads

(2)



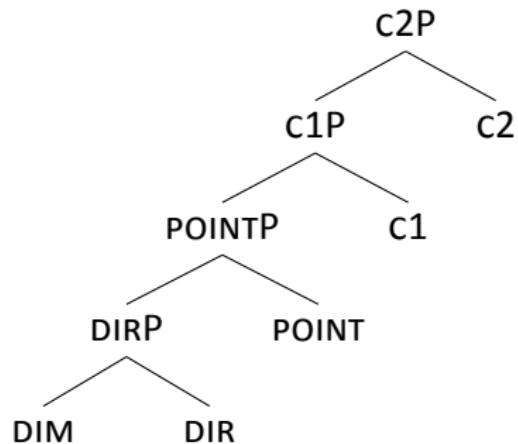
Bobaljik (2012)

(3)



Caha et al. (2019)

# The structure of the comparative



DIM - dimension (e.g. size, velocity, height, color)

DIR - direction (positive or negative)

POINT - a point on the scale (it ‘points’ to a contextual standard)

(Vanden Wyngaerd et al. 2020)

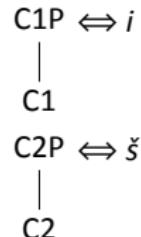
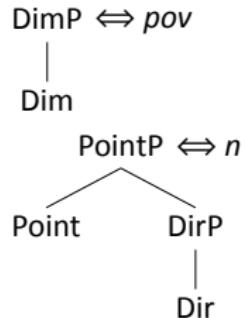
# Nanosyntax

- ▶ Superset Principle (Starke 2009): A lexically stored tree  $L$  matches a syntactic node  $S$  iff  $L$  contains the syntactic tree dominated by  $S$  as a subtree

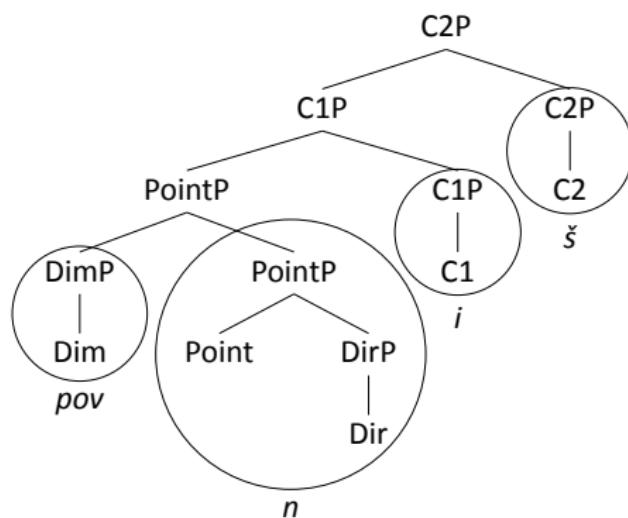
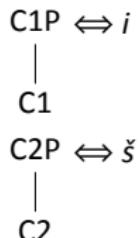
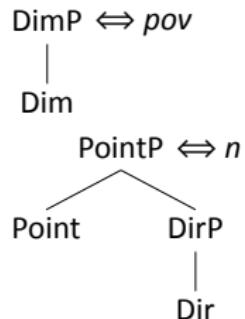
- ▶ Superset Principle (Starke 2009): A lexically stored tree  $L$  matches a syntactic node  $S$  iff  $L$  contains the syntactic tree dominated by  $S$  as a subtree
- ▶ Lexicalisation algorithm (Starke 2018):
  - a. Merge  $F$  and lexicalise  $FP$
  - b. If (a) fails, move the spec of the complement of  $F$  and lexicalise  $FP$
  - c. If (b) fails, move the complement of  $F$ , and lexicalise  $FP$

- ▶ Superset Principle (Starke 2009): A lexically stored tree  $L$  matches a syntactic node  $S$  iff  $L$  contains the syntactic tree dominated by  $S$  as a subtree
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- ▶ different root sizes (Caha et al. 2019), (Caha et al. 2022)

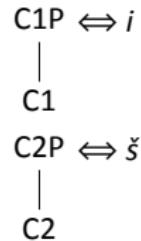
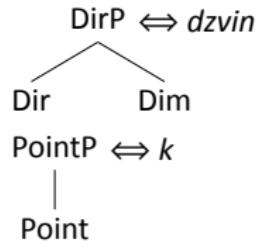
# Ukrainian: XS roots



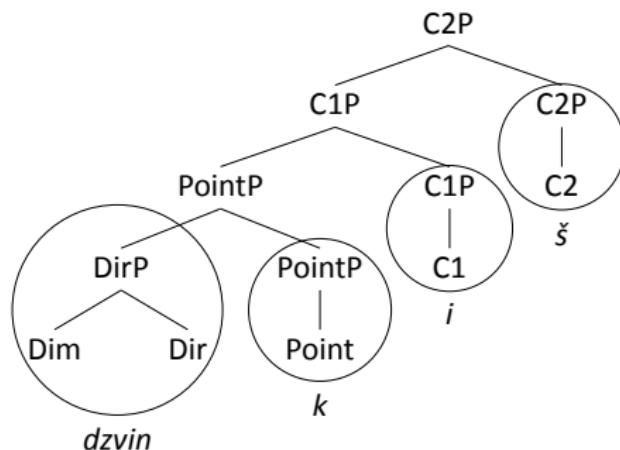
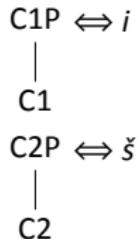
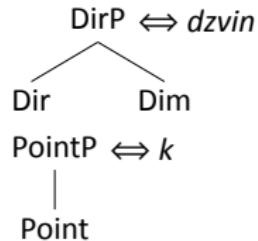
# Ukrainian: XS roots



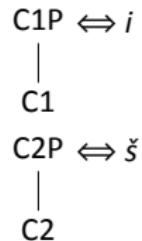
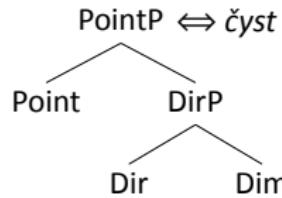
# Ukrainian: S roots



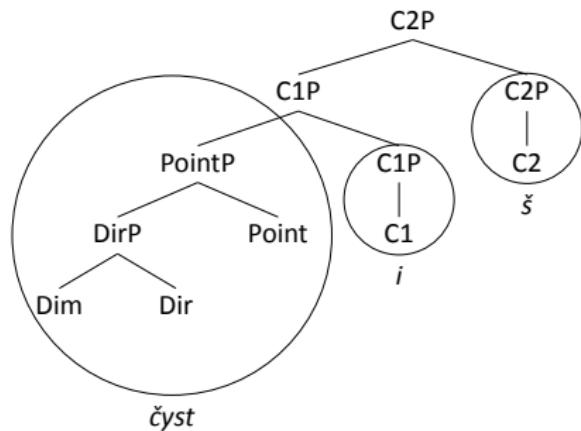
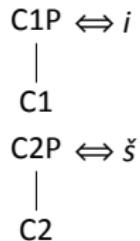
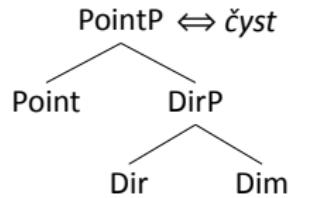
# Ukrainian: S roots



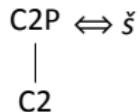
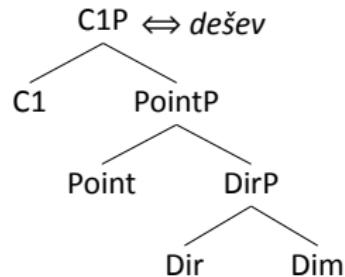
# Ukrainian: M roots



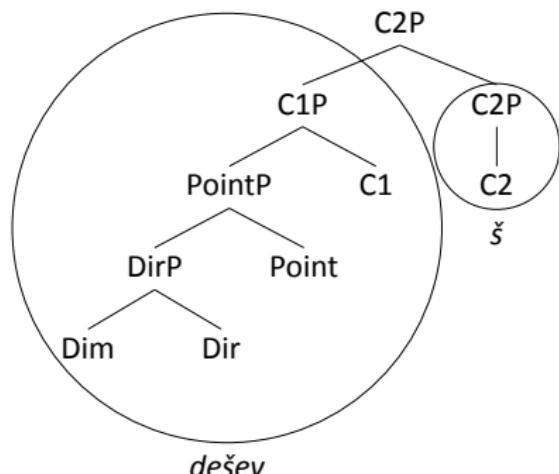
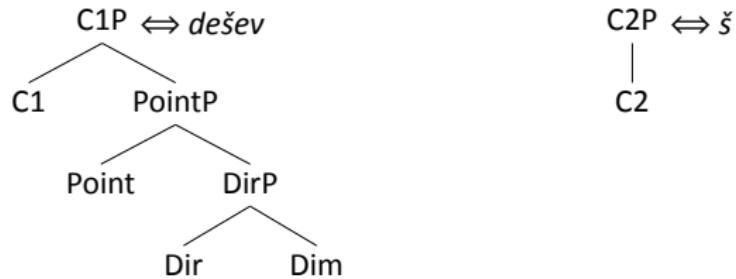
# Ukrainian: M roots



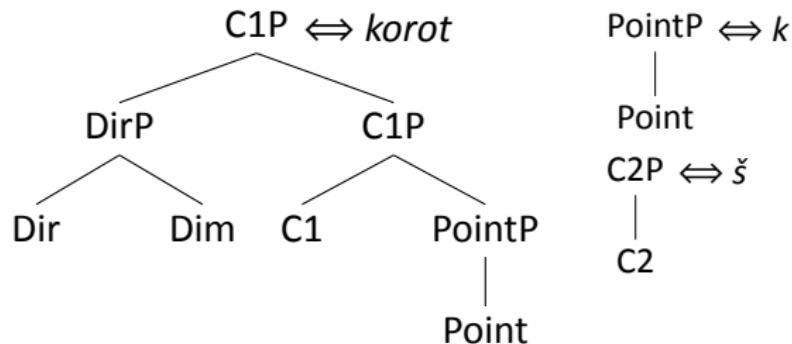
# Ukrainian: L roots



# Ukrainian: L roots

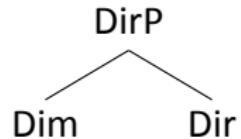


# Ukrainian: L' roots

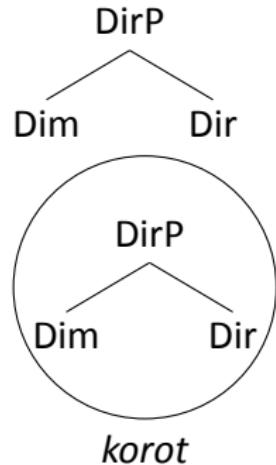


Complex Left Branch (CLB)  
(Caha's 2021 seminars)

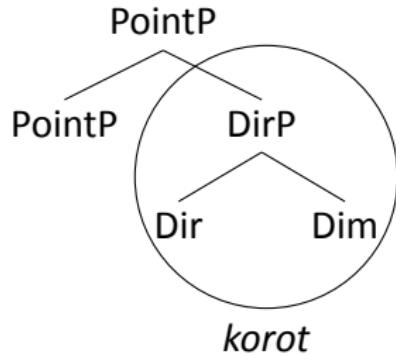
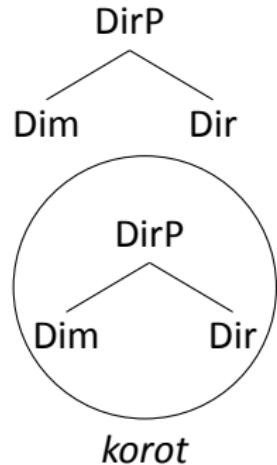
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



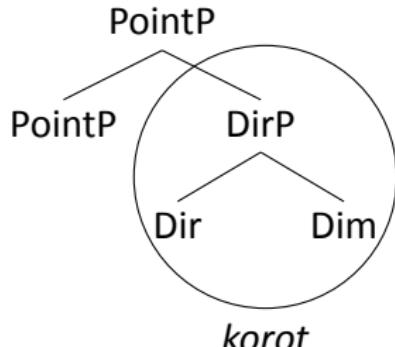
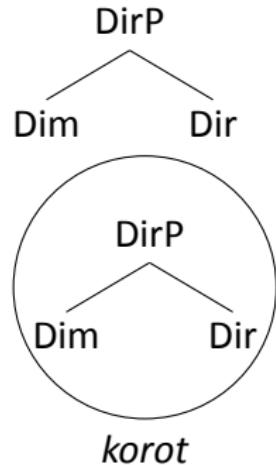
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



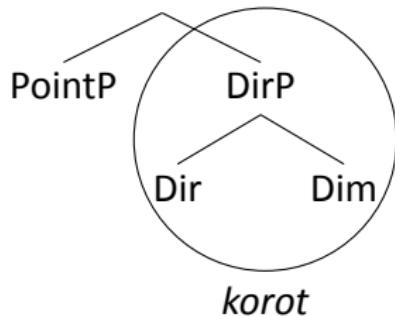
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



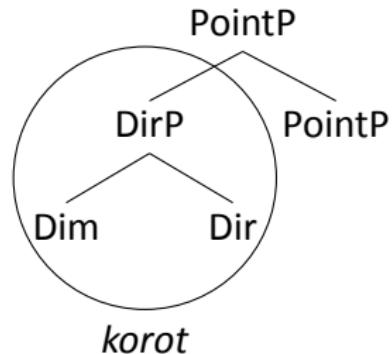
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



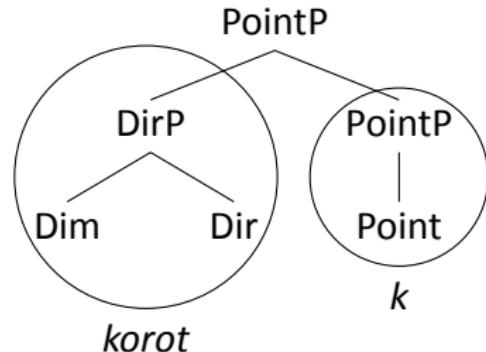
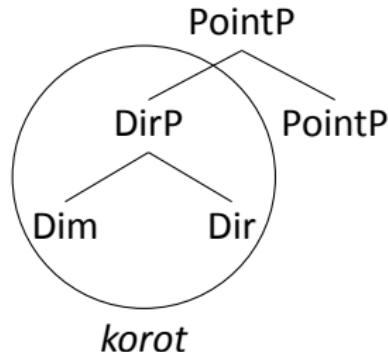
**!PointP!**



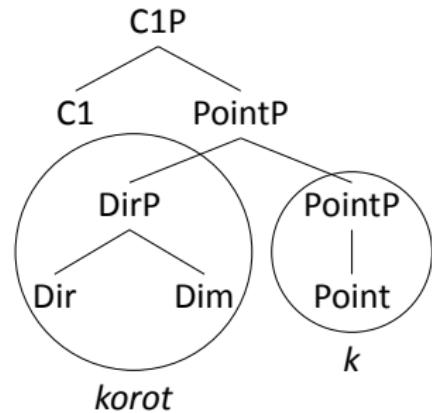
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



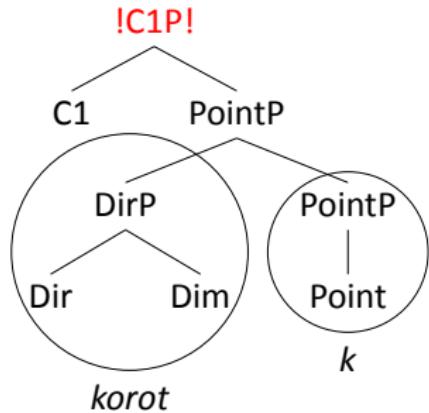
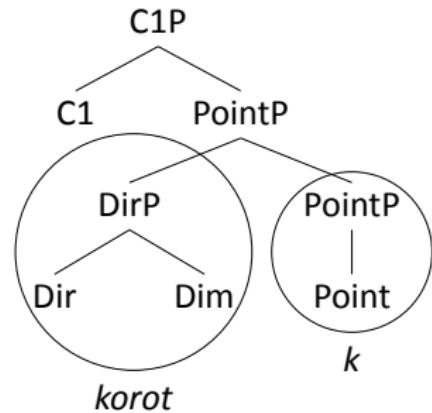
## Ukrainian L' roots: positive



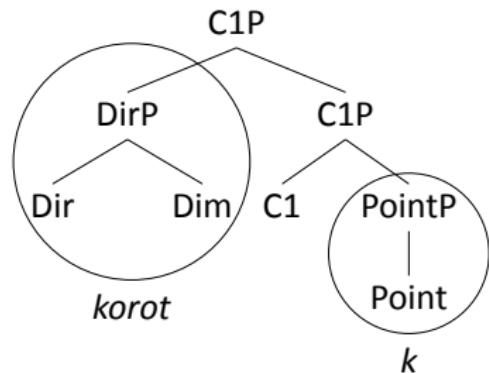
# Ukrainian L' roots: comparative



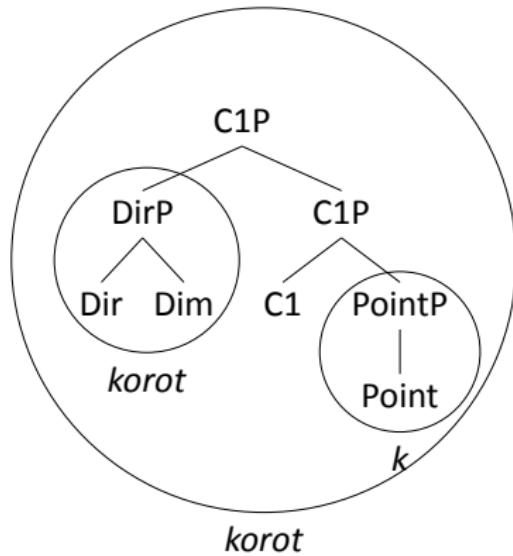
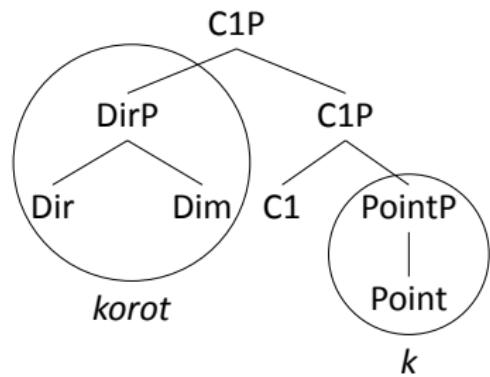
# Ukrainian L' roots: comparative



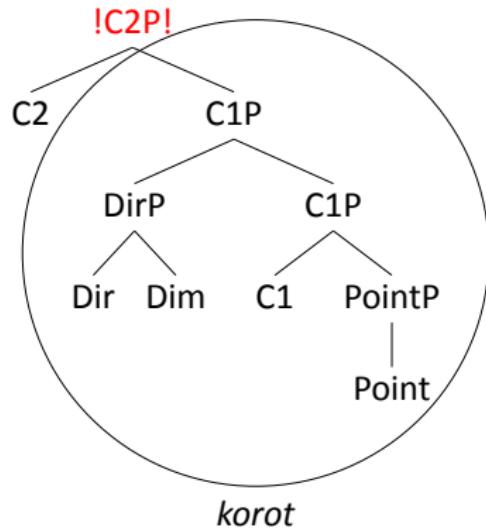
# Ukrainian L' roots: comparative



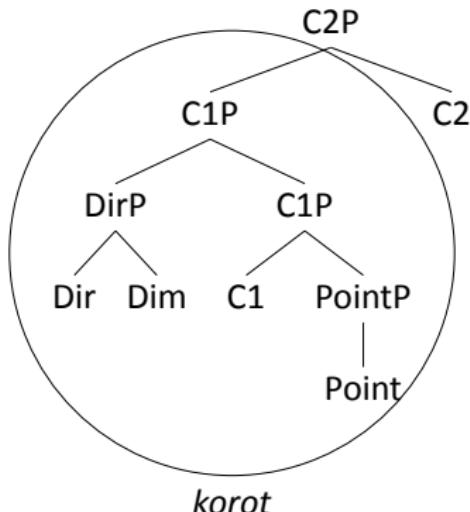
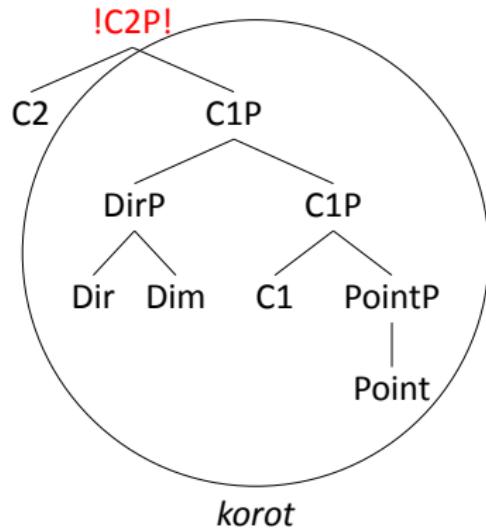
## Ukrainian L' roots: comparative



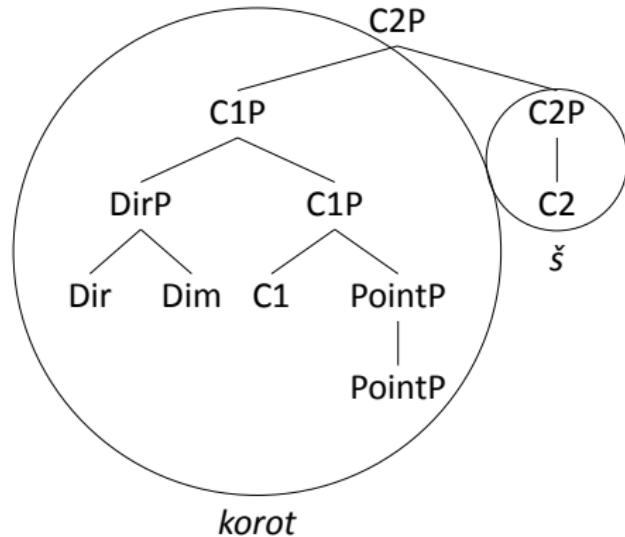
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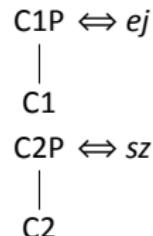
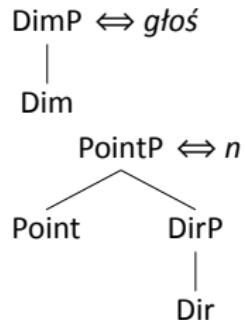
# Ukrainian L' roots: comparative



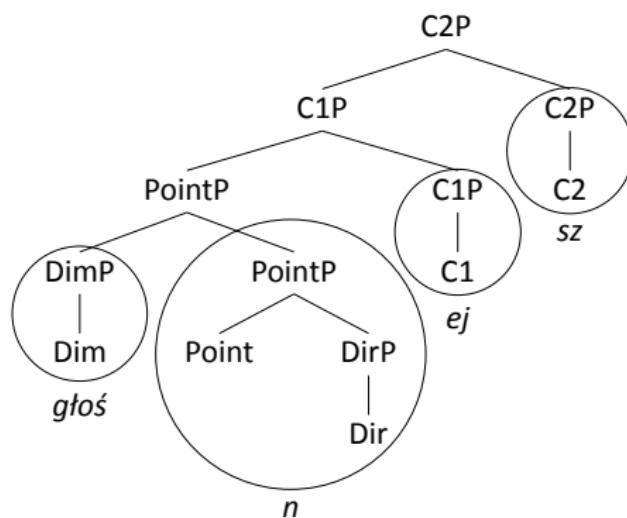
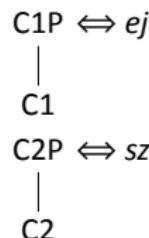
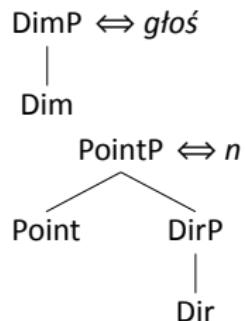
# Ukrainian: lexicalisation table

root	adjective	Dim	Dir	Point	C1	C2
XS	full, POS	pov		n		
	full, CMPR	pov		n	-i	-š
S	resonant, POS	dzvin		k		
	resonant, CMPR	dzvin		k	-i	-š
M	clean, POS		čyst			
	clean, CMPR		čyst			
L	cheap, POS		dešev			
	cheap, CMPR		dešev			
L'	short, POS	korot		k		
	short, CMPR	korot		*		

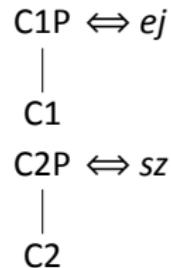
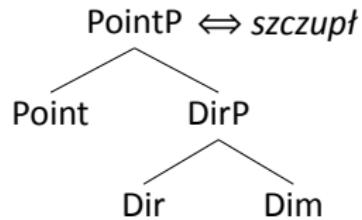
# Polish: XS roots



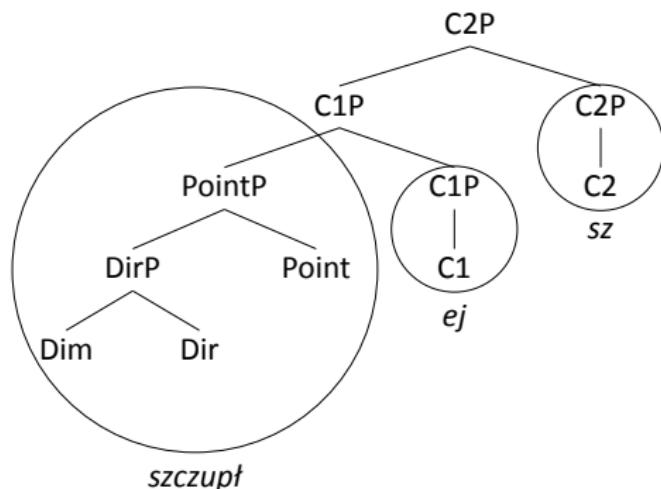
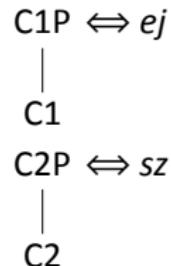
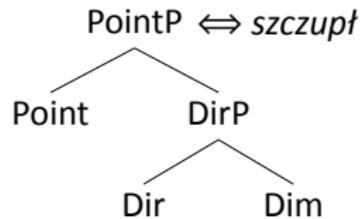
# Polish: XS roots



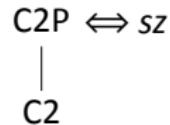
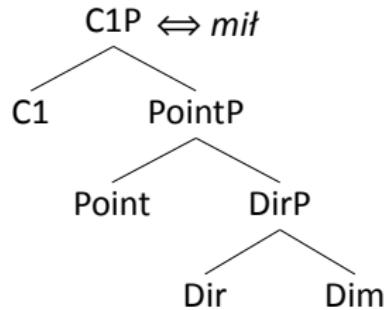
## Polish: M roots



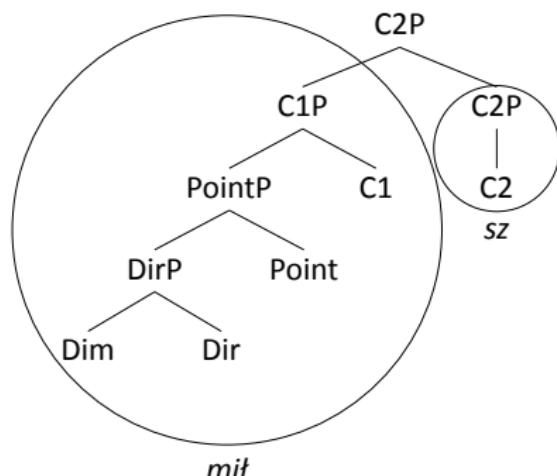
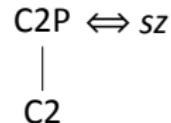
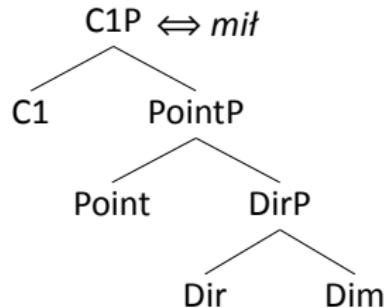
## Polish: M roots



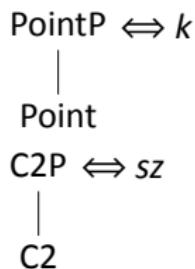
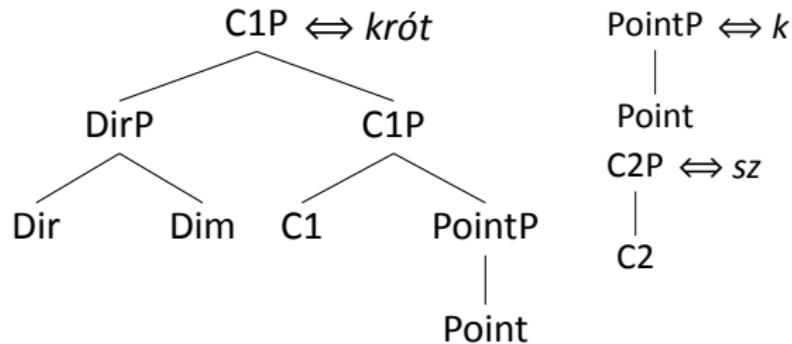
## Polish: L roots



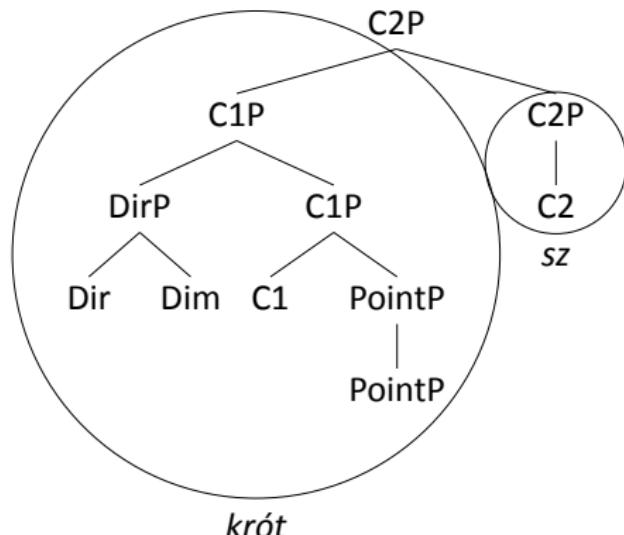
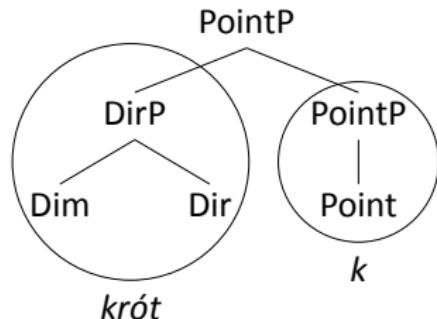
## Polish: L roots



## Polish: L' roots



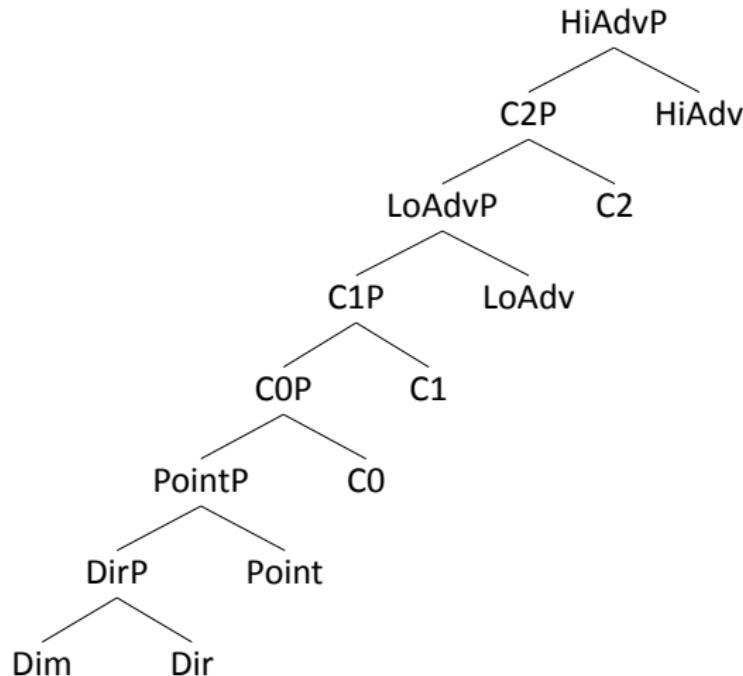
## Polish: L' roots



## Polish: lexicalisation table

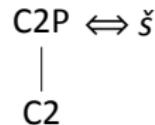
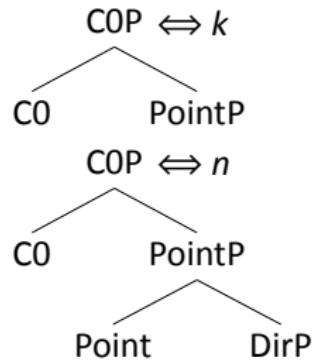
root	adjective	Dim	Dir	Point	C1	C2
XS	loud, POS	głoś	n	n	-ej	-sz
	loud, CMPR	głoś				
M	thin, POS	szczupł	szczupł	-ej	-sz	
	thin, CMPR					
L	kind, POS	mił	mil	-	-sz	
	kind, CMPR					
L'	short, POS	krót	k *	-	-sz	
	short, CMPR	krót				

# Comparative adverbs



(De Clercq et al. 2023)

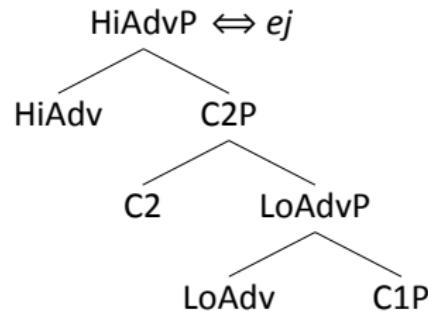
# Lexical entries



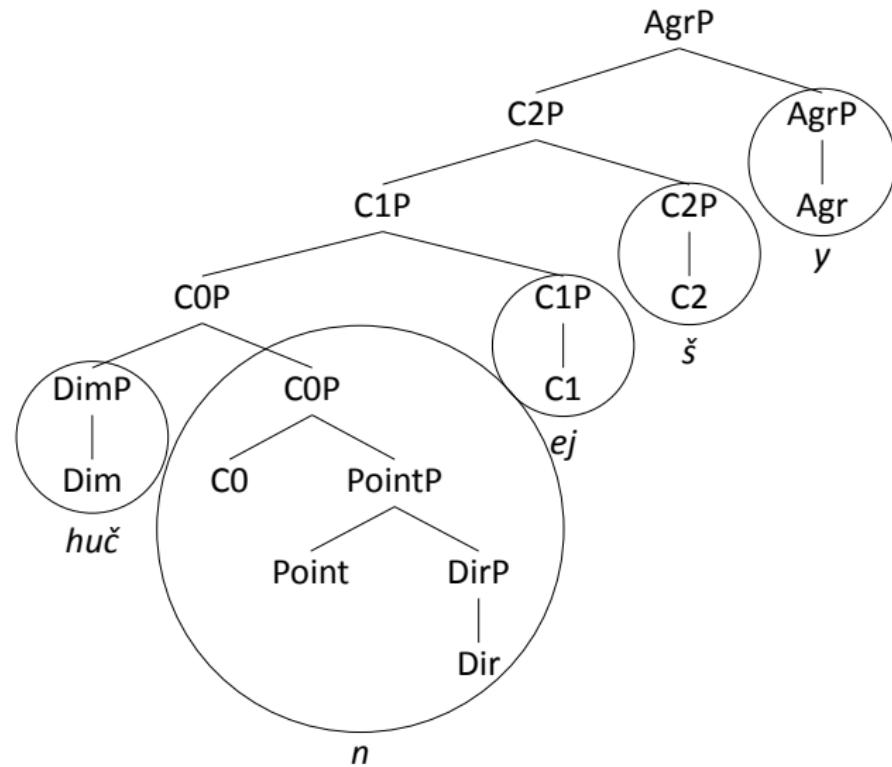
# Belarusian

The morpheme *-ej* in comparative adjectives and adverbs is the same in Belarusian; the difference is in how much structure it lexicalises.

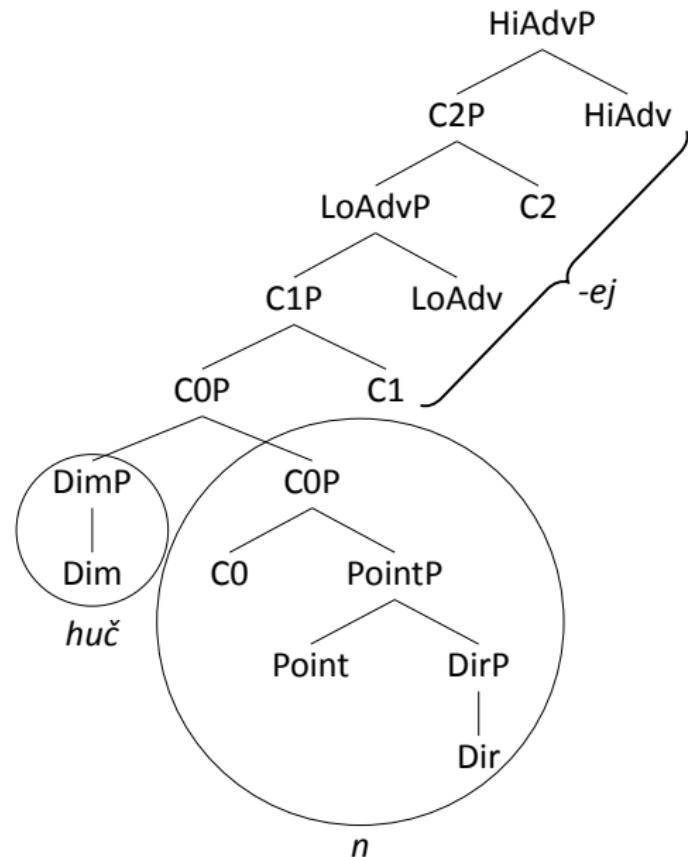
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{C1P} \Leftrightarrow ej \\ | \\ \text{C1} \end{array}$$



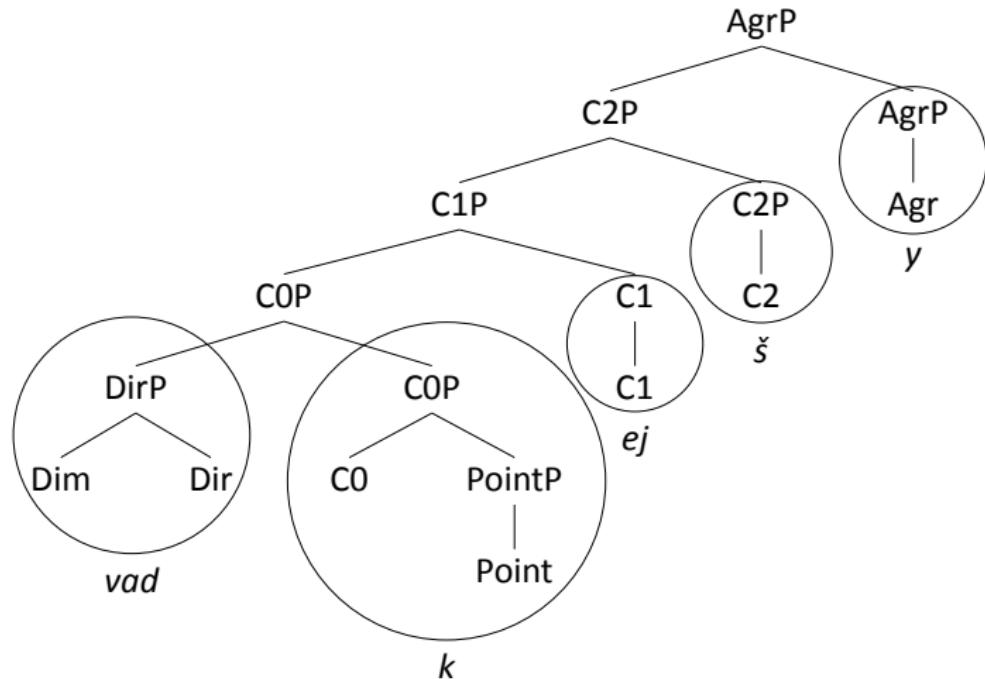
## Belarusian: XS roots adj



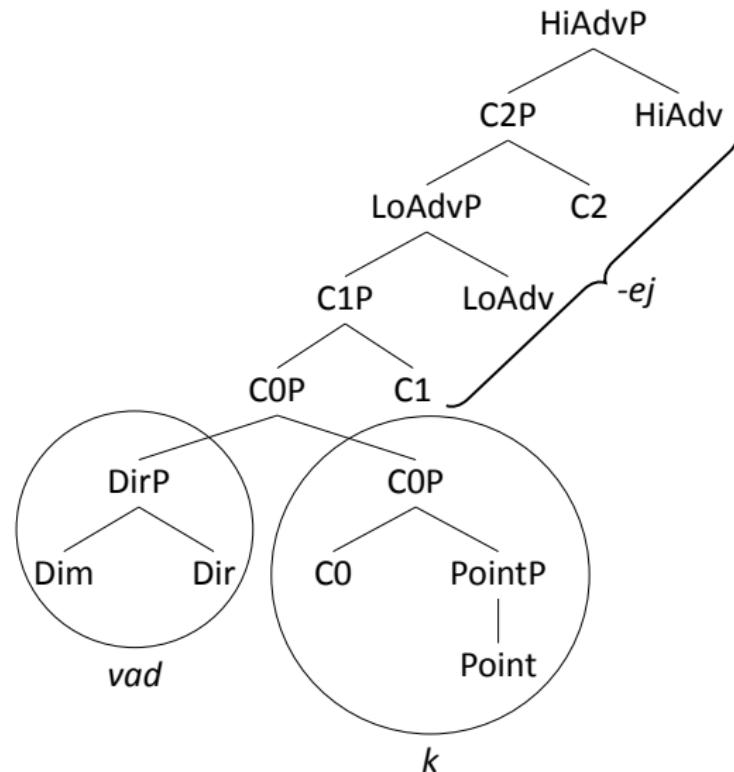
## Belarusian: XS roots adv



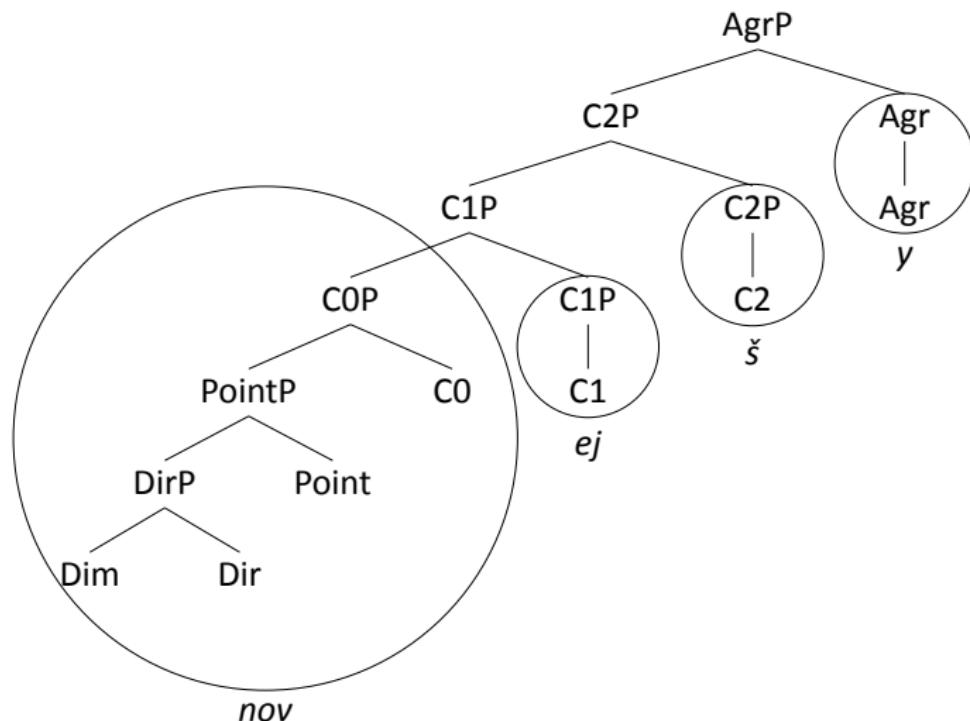
## Belarusian: S roots adj



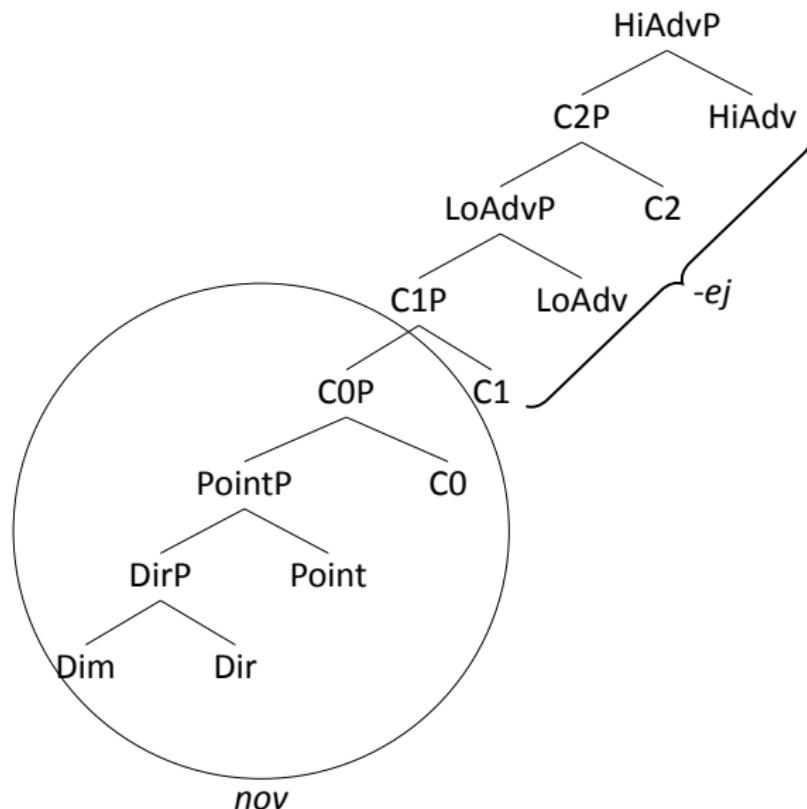
## Belarusian: S roots adv



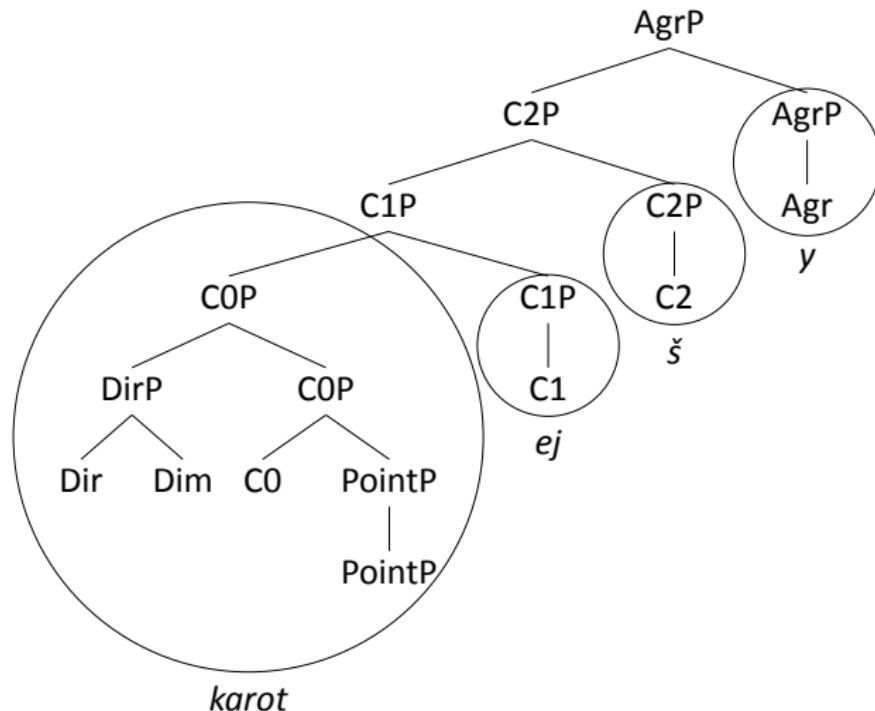
## Belarusian: M roots adj



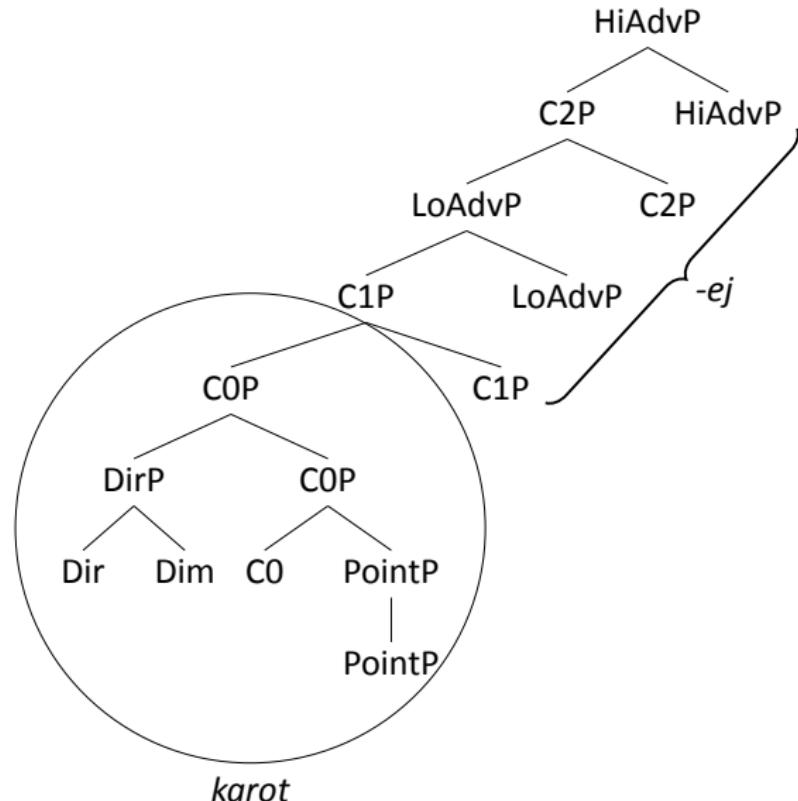
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# Belarusian: lexicalisation table

root	adjective	Dim	Dir	Point	C0	C1	LoAdv	C2	HiAdv
XS	loud, POS	huč		n					
	loud, CMPR ADJ	huč		n		-ej		-š	
	loud, CMPR ADV	huč		n			-ej		
S	liquid, POS	vad	k						
	liquid, CMPR ADJ	vad	k		-ej		-š		
	liquid, CMPR ADV	vad	k			-ej			
M	new, POS		nov						
	new, CMPR ADJ		nov		-ej		-š		
	new, CMPR ADV		nov			-ej			
M'	short, POS	karot	k						
	short, CMPR ADJ	karot	*		-ej		-š		
	short, CMPR ADV	karot	*			-ej			

# Outline

Introduction

Positive degree

Comparative degree

Simple comparative adjectives

Complex comparative adjectives

Analysis

Ukrainian

Polish

Belarusian

Conclusions

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# It's not about phonology

- (4) certain adjectives can take both -š and -iš

POS	CMPR -š	CMPR -iš	translation
a. bahat-yj	bahat-š-yj	bahat-iš-yj	rich
b. hrub-yj	hrub-š-yj	hrub-iš-yj	rude
c. zdorov-yj	zdorov-š-yj	zdorov-iš-yj	healthy

# It's not about phonology

(5) different roots in similar phonological environment

POS	CMPR -š	CMPR -iš	translation
a.	dešev-yj	dešev-š-yj	*dešev-iš-yj cheap
	važlyv-yj	*važlyv-š-yj	važlyv-iš-yj important
b.	duž-yj	duž-č-yj	*duž-iš-yj strong
	sviž-yj	*sviž-č-yj	sviž-iš-yj fresh