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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
THE MORPHOLOGY OF NOMINAL DIMINUTION
IN RUSSIAN AND CZECH

(C)

by
HANA PETRUCHA

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
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OF MASTER OF ARTS

IN

SLAVIC LINGUISTICS

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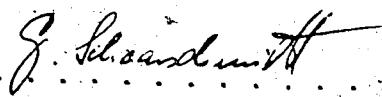
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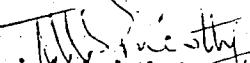
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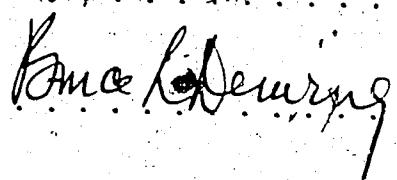
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a thesis entitled The Morphology of Nominal Diminution in Russian and Czech submitted by Hana Petrucha in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts.



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ABSTRACT

Diminution is a morphological process in which suffixes are attached to noun stems. The suffixing process is accompanied by a change of meaning, i.e., the derived noun denotes a smaller or dearer person than the noun from which it is derived. As opposed to diminution, noun derivation in general (non-expressive derivation) is not accompanied by a shift of meaning which would resemble the diminutive shift of meaning.

Diminution is limited to nouns only, while other types of word formation occur in all parts of speech. Diminution uses the same means for deriving diminutives as word formation, i.e., suffixes. However, there is no change either in the gender or in the grammatical class of the derived noun. In the process of non-expressive derivation, either the gender or the grammatical class or both can differ in the derived noun as compared with these features in the non-derived noun.

The formation of diminutives is very frequent in Standard Contemporary Russian and Czech. Four very common suffixes, viz., -#k, -ik, -#c and -ic, are considered in this thesis in Standard Contemporary Russian and two suffixes, viz., -#k and -#c, in Standard Contemporary Czech. Diminution involving these suffixes can proceed in two stages, which are called first and second degree stages; or the suffixes can be called terminal and non-terminal diminutive suffixes. These are encountered in all genders. The method used in classifying the suffixes follows a descriptive framework, whereby allomorphs are assigned to appropriate morphemes in terms of their distribution and meaning. Second degree diminutive suffixes are combinations of terminal and non-terminal

diminutive suffixes.

The differences which exist in the formation of diminutives in the two languages are in the number of morphemes used. There is a greater variety in the morphemes available for diminution in Russian; i.e., terminal -#K, -ik, -#C and -ic versus the two morphemes used in terminal position in Czech; i.e., -#K, -#C. Also the number of allomorphs available differs.

The results obtained show a great similarity in the formation of diminutives on one hand a larger variety of means available for diminution in Russian. A simplification of the Russian diminutive system occurs in Czech.

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INTRODUCTION

The aim of this thesis is to present a contrastive analysis of the morphology of diminutive noun suffixes in Russian and Czech. In previous research studies, the formation of diminutives has been discussed in a purely classificatory manner, whereas the function of the suffixes has never been studied thoroughly. On the whole, there are very few studies dealing with the contrastive analysis of diminutives in Slavic languages.

In general, diminution is a specific type of word formation. It is a derivational process which involves noun stems (lexical morphemes) and one group of word-formative suffixes, namely, diminutive suffixes. Diminution is distinguished from other types of word formation in that it indicates the manifestation of a special class within the class of derivatives. Diminution is related to word formation in the means used (suffixes) and in the fact that a certain change of meaning is produced.

If the forms "učitel'", "učitel'nica", are considered, the lexical meaning of the two differs; a new form is produced with its own precise meaning. The form "učitel'" refers to a male teacher or to a teacher whose sex is unidentified. The newly formed "učitel'nica" refers to female teachers only and has therefore a new meaning.

The forms "lámpa, lámpočka" are also lexically related. The former can mean either a lamp or a tube; the diminutive "lámpočka" can refer to either and can convey basically the meaning of a small lamp or a small tube. If "lámpočka" refers to a light bulb the formal meaning of diminution is lost. A light bulb may be small or large in relation to

other members of its class, but "small lamp" always contains the semantic feature of diminution.

Apart from certain lexical relationships which accompany diminution, there are purely morphological features which are characteristic of diminution; firstly, diminutive suffixes are attached to noun stems (lexical morphemes), and, secondly, no shift of gender occurs.

In the above discussion it can be seen that there are basically two types of problems in this area. The first problem is concerned with the morphology of diminutives, i.e., the way diminutives are attached to noun stems and what morphophonemic alternations occur. The second problem involves the semantics of diminutives, i.e., the various shades of meaning of diminution that are characteristic of the different suffixes. The problem of meaning will be touched upon only inasmuch as it can serve as a criterion for distinguishing the various diminutive morphemes.

The first chapter will be a short evaluation of the literature available on the subject of diminutives in Russian and Czech. The evaluation will be mainly concerned with the approaches of the authors.

Chapter II will be an analysis of diminutive suffixes which are used in derivational processes in Russian. Some diminutive suffixes will be excluded from the discussion in order to narrow down the area of research for the thesis. The problem of so-called "first" and "second" degree diminutives or terminal versus non-terminal diminutive suffixes will be introduced with regard to the morphological structuring of diminutives. Discussion will be restricted to -#k, -ik, -#c and -ic diminutive suffixes.¹

¹This order will be adhered to in all following chapters.

Chapter III will be concerned with the distributional analysis of diminutive suffixes in Czech. The diminutive suffixes -#K and -#C will be considered for both degrees and all genders.

Chapter IV will contain a line-by-line comparison of the allomorphs of the diminutive suffixes -#K and -#C which occur in Russian and Czech. It will also contain an enumeration of the morphemes occurring in Russian (-#K, -ik, -#C, -ic) and the ones occurring in Czech (-#K, -#C).

The whole thesis is based on the assumption that the formation of diminutives is essentially the same in both languages; and that the semantic differentiations are similar in both languages. The goal of this thesis will be to demonstrate this and to explain differences between the two languages, e.g., the number of allomorphs of the suffix -#K.

The Russian data in this thesis has been transliterated from the standard orthography.¹ The reason for preferring the transliteration to a phonetic or phonemic transcription is that only the morphological structure of diminutives is being analyzed.

Stress variations which accompany the process of attaching diminutive suffixes in Russian constitute a problem in their own right and are therefore not treated in this thesis. However, since certain allomorphs can occur only when stressed (e.g., -ok, -ěk), stress must be taken into consideration in the specification of the environment of the suffixes. Stress is marked by an acute accent (') in the Russian examples.

Examples and data from Czech are given in the standard Czech

¹ The transliteration is that employed for cyrillic alphabets as specified in the Style Sheet of the Slavic and East European Journal.

orthography. It will be noted that certain changes in vowel length accompany the process of attaching diminutive suffixes. A discussion of these changes is beyond the scope of this thesis. Length in Czech examples is marked by an acute accent ('), as in the standard Czech orthography.

CHAPTER I

PREVIOUS RESEARCH ON DIMINUTIVES IN RUSSIAN AND CZECH

1. General Evaluation of Works on Diminutives in Russian and Czech.

It can be seen from the bibliography that many scholars have devoted their time and effort to the study of diminutives. These works differ considerably in value. For this reason it was felt necessary to divide the bibliography into two parts.

The first part, named "Works Cited", contains studies which are of considerable importance to this thesis, and all of these studies are discussed in more detail in parts 2 and 3 of this chapter. The second part of the bibliography, named "Works Consulted", contains studies which are related to the problem of diminutives, but which have not contributed directly to this thesis. This part of the bibliography may be divided into several groups, which represent various approaches. Some authors (Cuřín, Gromova, Hayeková, Straková, Šmilauer and others) concentrate on particular diminutives (several nouns with diminutive suffixes). The author does not attempt to include "his" diminutives into a larger overview nor consider their morphology; neither does he discuss the meaning of the diminutive noun in any but the most superficial terms.

Another group of authors (Lightner, Horálek, Townsend) discuss in their works a greater field of research than diminutives. These authors include diminutives because they follow some proposed pattern or support some proposed theory. Still other authors (Brence, Fáber, Mrázek,

Pavelka) concentrate on the meaning of the diminutive. Their research is mostly limited to a few specific words and can hardly be considered indispensable as far as this thesis is concerned.

In general the works consulted provide mostly general information and background reading; more valuable information and suggestion are contained in the first part of the bibliography.

2. Research on Russian Diminutives.

One of the oldest and most exhaustive studies undertaken on the subject of diminutive suffixes is contained in Alexander Belić's article.¹ In this work Belić treats diminutive and augmentative suffixes in all Slavic languages. The occurring suffixes are enumerated (for a complete list, see E. Popov).² Belić lists the allomorphs of the same suffix as independent units, -k for the masculine gender, -ka for the feminine and -ko for neuter. The above could all be listed as one -k suffix with the appropriate gender marker, and Belić should have at least pointed out the relationship between the above suffixes. This lack of cross-reference occurs in his treatment of suffixes as well.

The suffixes are also specified in the article with reference to their meaning, but there is no attempt made to show a semantic interrelationship among them. The main drawback in Belić's article would

¹ Alexander Belić, "Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der slavischen Deminutiv- und Amplifikativsuffixe," Archiv fuer slavische Philologie, Berlin, 1901, pp. 134-207.

² Elizabeth A. Popov, The Semantic Structure of the Russian Diminutives, Ph.D. Dissertation, Stanford University, 1967, pp. 4-6.

appear to be the failure to identify any systematic relationship.

Two articles concerning diminutive suffixes have been written by A. Dement'ev.¹ Both articles are mainly concerned with the meaning of diminutive suffixes. Dement'ev establishes several categories of meaning: The basic distinctions in nuances are: diminutive-affectionate, affectionate, approximation, irony and weakened meaning of the underlying noun. In the second part of each of Dement'ev's articles there is a change in approach and a few selected suffixes are systematically treated. This part might be called an attempt at a morphological evaluation. It must be mentioned that only the masculine gender is considered. Some points concerning the distribution of the suffixes are mentioned.

A much more detailed study of diminutives is found in Stankiewicz's dissertation.² Suffixes are divided into simple and compound classes. This had not been done previously by any of the above-considered authors.

The following suffixes are listed: Simple: -#k

-ik
-c
-ic

Compound suffixes - secondary: -#k--#k

-#k--ik
-#c--ik
-ik--#k
-ic--#k

¹ A. Dement'ev, "Umen'sitel'nye slova v russkom jazyke," Russkij jazyk v škole, Vol. 5, 1953, pp. 5-11; and

id., "Zametki po russkomu slovoobrazovaniju," Učennye zapiski kujbyševskogo pedagogičeskogo instituta, Vol. 13, 1955, pp. 233-54.

² Edward Stankiewicz, Declension and Gradation of Russian Substantives in Standard Contemporary Russian, The Hague, Mouton, 1968.

-iš---#k
 -uš---#k
 -in---#k
 -on---#k
 -on'---#k
 - tertiary: -on---#k---#k
 -uš---#k---#k

From the table it can be seen that primary suffixes contain one simple component, while secondary suffixes are composed of two components and tertiary of three.

One of the claims Stankiewicz makes is that secondary suffixes are attached to primary suffixes. This, then, develops into a problem of arranging the compound suffixes into components. Consider, as a concrete example, the word "ruka"; the first degree diminutive formed with the suffix "#k" is "ručka"; the second degree diminutive of the same root will be "rečka". In the example "ručka", "-#k" is the primary suffix; in "ručonka" -on is the primary suffix and -#k- the secondary. If other examples are considered ("syn, synok, synoček"; "bereg, berežok, berežoček"), a consistency in the ordering appears. In the feminine gender this consistency becomes even more obvious: "kniga, knižka, knižečka"; "reka, rečka, rečuška, rečen'ka".¹ In all the stated examples the first degree diminutive is formed with the suffix -#k and the second degree with a combination of two -#k suffixes (except "rečuška, rečen'ka"). In the combining process the first degree diminutive suffix follows the second degree diminutive suffix. Stankiewicz does not attempt to explain the apparent inconsistency which appears to develop from his sentence, "the compound suffixes consist of sequences of two or three simple

¹ Stankiewicz, p. 99.

suffixes."¹ As the ordering of suffixes seems to be a major problem, this will be treated in greater detail in Chapters II and III of this thesis.

An introductory and very general approach to diminutives has been taken by Bratus.² The writer enumerated diminutive suffixes by degree and explained the degrees of diminutiveness. The idea of diminution is partially explained by means of standard English and dialectal English examples. There is no attempt to perform a morphological analysis of the suffixes.

✓ The following suffixes are quoted:

first degree:

- ka
- ik
- čik
- ok/-ek
- ecó/-ice
- ec
- enok/-onok/-enyš
- ica
- inka
- yš
- ko/-iko
- ca

second degree:

- en'ka
- on'ka
- uška/-juška
- uško/-juško
- uša/-juša
- yško/-iško
- iško
- aška
- onka/-enka

¹ Stankiewicz, p. 102.

² B. Bratus, The Formation and Expressive Use of Diminutives, Cambridge, University Press, 1969.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| third degree: | -očka/-ečka -ička -oček/-eček -onoček/-enoček/-onočka/-enočka -inočka -išečka/-išečko/-yšečka/-jušečka -uročka/-ulen'ka |
|---------------|---|

If this list is compared with Stankiewicz's the first apparent difference is that in the latter the suffixes are cited with regard to morphological principles which the writer wants to illustrate.

Stankiewicz's list is therefore shorter and more economical. Bratus's list, on the one hand, is a pure enumeration of suffixes. Newly listed are the following: -enok, -enyš, -yš, -enka, -juška, -uša -juša, -aška, -inočka, -išečka, -išečko, -yšečka, -jušečka, -uročka, -ulen'ka.

An approach very similar to Bratus' is taken by the Academy Grammar.¹ The chapter about word formation deals with suffixes used for derivation of new expressions. Diminutive suffixes are included among others. The division of derivational suffixes into groups is based on the meaning of the newly formed expression. The list of diminutive suffixes is somewhat shorter than Bratus' since morphological alternations of consonants are considered.

A different approach to diminutives is taken by E. Popov.² Her thesis approaches some diminutive suffixes from a semantic point of view. Popov attempts to establish the difference in meaning caused by different diminutive suffixes; therefore, she ascribes meaning to suffixes and illustrates it with examples. Her terminology and nuances of meaning

¹Grammatika sovremennoj russkogo literaturnogo jazyka, Moscow, Akademija nauk SSSR, pp. 129-38.

²Elisabeth A. Popov, The Semantic Structure of the Russian Diminutives, Ph.D. Dissertation, Stanford, 1967.

will be considered in later chapters.

3. Research on Czech Diminutives.

The amount of literature written on diminutives in Czech is smaller than in Russian. There is a complete lack of a morphological study of diminutives, as well as a semantic evaluation. A syntactic approach to diminutives has not been attempted in either Russian or Czech. The majority of works written on diminutives in Czech are general introductions to the problem which attempt to explain the nature of diminution.

An extensive list of diminutive suffixes of Czech is given by Belic.¹ The following suffixes are included:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| -k suffixes: | -ik, -yk -ak -ek -ka -ko -íčko -átko -enka -áček -íček -íčko -eček -ecko -ečka |
|--------------|---|

| | |
|--------------|--|
| -c suffixes: | -ica -ec -ce -eneč -íčka -eček -ečko |
|--------------|--|

¹Alexander Belic, "Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der slavischen Deminutiv- und Amplifikativsuffixe," Archiv fuer slavische Philologie, Berlin, 1901, pp. 154-73.

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| -isko suffix: | -isko |
| -t suffix: | -outky |
| -ch suffixes: | -ous -oušek -uška |
| -l suffixes: | -ula -el |
| -n suffixes: | -na -inka -izna |
| -g suffix: | -ha |
| other suffix: | -da |

This list of suffixes does not give any information about degrees of diminutivity, relationship between suffixes, or the meaning of the suffixes.

A more recent study of the same problem by Neščimenko¹ attempts to consider diminutives with respect to derivational morphology. The title, which suggests a detailed morphological and semantical study, is misleading. A general introduction to word formation is followed by a superficial study of classification of diminutive suffixes. The suffixes are divided into two grades. The greatest disappointment in regard to the promising title is the division of suffixes into genders with no cross-reference among the individual allomorphs. As a morphological investigation of diminutives, the article does not contribute very much.

¹ G. P. Neščimenko, "Zakonomernosti slovoobrazovanija, semantiki i upotrebljenija suščestvitel'nyx s suffiksami sub"ektivnoj ocenki v sovremenном češskom jazyke, Issledovaniya po češskomu jazyku, Moscow, Akademija nauk, 1963, p. 105.

A quantitative study of diminutives has been undertaken by L. Doležel.¹ The study is a frequency count of diminutive suffixes in Czech. This approach has not been taken by any previous researcher of the problem. The frequency of occurrence is, however, not directly related to my thesis.

The literature on diminutives in both languages concentrates on discussing diminutives in general. There are some attempts at classifying the suffixes, but there is a clear lack of systematic semantic or morphological approaches.

¹Lubomír Doležel, "Jména zdrobnělá," Tvorba slov v češtině, Praha, Československá akademie věd, 1967, pp. 494-530.

CHAPTER II

A DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE DIMINUTIVE SUFFIXES IN RUSSIAN

The chief morphological means available for diminution in Russian is the suffix -#K, which very well exemplifies the general morphology of diminution. This suffix is a morpheme which may occur in more than one single phonemic shape. A single shape of a morpheme is a morph as in our case, -ok, -ëk, -ek or -k.¹ Morphs which are representations of the same morpheme are called allomorphs.

In addition to diminution, the morpheme -#K is used for other kinds of derivation in Russian. An example may be the usage of the suffix -ok when deriving a noun from a verb stem.

| verb: | noun: |
|-----------|---------|
| igrát' | igrók |
| xodít' | xodók |
| katát'sja | katók |
| ostát'sja | ostátok |

The above examples illustrate a shift from verbs to nouns, which is a shift of lexical classes. The same suffix may also be used for shifts within one lexical class.

¹Cf. G. Schaarschmidt, A Manual in Contrastive Linguistics: The Structure of Russian and English, Part I, Phonemics and Morphophonemics, University of Alberta, 1966, p. 56.

²Grammatika sovremennoj russkoj jazyka, p. 51.

noun:

éda
klassifikácia
publikácia
organizácia

noun:

edók
klassifikátor
publikátor
organizátor

Derivations formed with an intervening derivative suffix are from the same lexical class (input and output are nouns) and of the same gender.

For example:

basic noun:

sbór
kljúč
kúst
čáj

derived noun:

sbór-n-ik
kljúč-n-ik
kust-ár-n-ik
čaj-n-ik

In general, however, the characteristic feature of diminution is the retention of the gender of the basic noun without including an intervening derivational suffix, as in the following examples:

sýn
durák
dólg

syn-ók
durač-ók
dolž-ók

From the previous examples and observations it is possible to see the morphological characteristics which apply to diminution.

1. diminution is a subclass of word formation;
2. diminution uses the same suffixes as other classes of word formation;
3. diminution preserves the gender of the underlying noun;
4. the suffixes used for diminution are always attached directly to the stem before any inflectional suffixes are added.

From a semantic point of view, derivation in general yields a specific kind of change in meaning.

The Russian diminutive suffixes may be either simple (first

degree) or compound (second degree). The former occur singly, while the latter occur in combination with some other diminutive suffix. The simple diminutive suffixes are represented here as -#K, -ik, -#C, and -ic. Arguments will now be presented for distinguishing these four morphemes in Russian in the simple diminutives.

1. The suffixes -#K and -ik.

The -#K diminutive suffix occurs as a simple suffix in the following shapes: -ok, -ëk and -ek in the masculine gender and -k in the feminine and neuter genders. As there seem to be three variants of the same suffix in the masculine gender, their distribution will have to be established. The suffix -ek does not occur stressed in diminutive derivation. The suffixes -ok and -ëk occur only stressed.

If the observations by Klagstadt are considered, an important criterion for assigning the suffixes -ok, -ëk to -ek is obtained.¹

Klagstadt gives a list of suffixes among which -ek, -ëk and -ok occur. All three of these suffixes participate in the phonemically conditioned vowel-zero alternation while the suffix -ik does not.² The conditioning factor for the alternation is stress. There are two types of stress:

1. no stress on vowel alternation with zero;
2. stress on vowel alternation with zero.

¹H. L. Klagstadt, Vowel-Zero Alternation in Contemporary Standard Russian, Ph.D. Dissertation, Harvard, 1954.

²The vowel i does not take part in any vowel-zero alternation except in the numeral odin, odna.

Examples:

1. čelovéček, G. Sg. čelovéčka

platóček, G. Sg. platóčka

úlička, G. Pl. úliček

2. berežók, G. Sg. berežká

cvetók, G. Sg. cvetká

ugol'ěk, G. Sg. ugol'ká

The fact that the suffixes -ok, -ěk and -ik can be divided into two groups according to their different stress patterns serves as one basis for arguing that the suffixes -ik and -ek, -ěk, -ok represent two distinct morphemes. Popov states: "Obviously -ok, -ek are conditioned by stress . . . they cannot both occur with the same basic form."¹

Semantically the suffix -ik adds emotional colouring to the underlying noun. This nuance in the suffix is not represented as strongly in either -ek, -ěk or -ok. According to Dement'ev the suffix -ik has a fuller diminutive meaning which allows for the disregarding of second degree diminutives.² Popov¹ and Potixa³ present similar arguments.

¹ E. A. Popov, The Semantic Structure of the Russian Diminutives, p. 30.

² A. A. Dement'ev, "Umen'šitel'nye slova v russkom jazyke," Russkij jazyk v škole, Vol. 5, 1953, pp. 5-11.

³ Z. A. Potixa, "Sovremennoe russkoe slovoobrazovanie," Prosvetlenie, 1970, pp. 247-52.

Examples of -ik diminutives are as follows:¹

| basic form | diminutive form | usage in sentence or phrase |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| dóžd' | dóždik | Těplyj doždik. |
| nóž | nóžik | Peročinnyyj nožik. |
| nós | nósik | Cajnik s otbitym nosikom. |
| slón | slónik | Derevjannyj slonik. |
| topór | topórík | On postukival toporikom. |
| zájac | zájčik | Po stene i potolku zabégali zajčiki. |
| život | živótik | Nadorvat' životik. |

Diminutives formed with the suffixes -ok, -ěk and -ek also express a weaker diminutive meaning, as seen in the following examples:

| | | |
|---------|-----------|--|
| býk | byčok | S byčkom u menja neladno, noga čisto puzyr' delalas', ne možet byčok idti. |
| cvét | cvetók | Cvetok zasoxšij, bezuxrannyj, zabytyj v knige. |
| čelovék | čeloveček | Potom javilsja čeloveček s gazetoj i sel na skamejku. |
| dolg | dolžok | Kniga-kartočnyj dolžok. |
| górod | gorodók | Provincial'nyj gorodok. |
| jazýk | jazyčok | U neě zloj jazyčok. |
| piróg | pirožok | Voz'mite ešče pirožka. |
| platók | platóček | Ne šmygaj nosikom, no dobud' platoček iz karmana. |
| sýn | synók | Synok požaluj. |
| uzel | uzelók | Knižki v uzelke. |
| úgol' | ugolěk | On vidit ugolěk. |

Furthermore, the suffix -ik can occur only as a final member of a cluster of diminutive suffixes. This behaviour differentiates the suffix from the allomorphs of the -#K diminutive suffix.

The feminine and neuter genders have only two variants of the -#K diminutive suffix, namely, -k and -ek. According to Popov, diminutive forms are most frequent in the feminine gender.² When the allomorph -k

¹ Here and elsewhere, the Russian examples are mostly modified from the examples of E. A. Popov.

² E. A. Popov, The Semantic Structure of the Russian Diminutive, p. 12.

precedes the gender marker -a the syllable is never stressed.

Examples of -k diminutives in feminine nouns are as follows:

| | | |
|--------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| dóč' | dóčka | Ona rodila dočku. |
| doróga | doróžka | Na polukrovye dorožki. |
| golová | golóvka | Golovka gvozdja. |
| kníga | knížka | Istrepannaja knížka. |
| lávka | lávočka | Ona prisela na lavočku. |
| ruká | rúčka | Detskajá rúčka. |
| sumá | súmka | Pletenaja sumka dlja proyizii. |
| trubá | trúbka | Dlinnaja trubka. |
| žíla | žílka | Krov' zaigrala po žilkam. |

The -ek allomorph occurs in the G. Pl. of such nouns (e.g., dóček, doróžek, etc.).

In the neuter gender the suffix -#K appears before the gender marker -o, which is also unstressed in this circumstance, just as in the feminine examples. The number of morphemes which attach the suffix -k in the neuter gender is relatively small in comparison to the masculine and the feminine genders.

Examples of -k diminutives in the neuter nouns are as follows:

| | | |
|-------|--------|----------------------------|
| okno | okoško | Pod okoškom kogo-to ždala. |
| ózero | ozérko | Malen'koe ozérko. |
| úxo | úško | Šépnu vam na uško. |

Again the -ek allomorph occurs in the G. Pl. forms.

2. The suffixes -#C and -#ic.

The following shapes of diminutive suffixes based on -#C have been encountered: -ec in the masculine gender and -c in the feminine gender (before the desinence -a) and neuter gender (before the desinance -o or -e).

From the meaning of the suffixes one may say that -ec and -c belong to one morpheme; the different gender markers in the neuter gender are results of stress shifts.

Examples of -#C diminutive suffixes are as follows:

Masculine:

| | |
|-------|---------|
| brát | brátec |
| lár' | lárec |
| naród | naródec |
| óbraz | obrazec |

Vrěš' bratec.
Kovannyj larec.
Sibirskie narodcy.
Ukažite nam, otečestva otcy,
kotorych my dolžny prinjat'
za obrazcy.

Feminine:

| | |
|-------|--------|
| dvéř' | dverca |
| lén' | lénca |
| sól' | sól'ca |

Pecnye dverca.
Čelovek s lencoj.
Posyp sol'coj.

Neuter:

| | |
|--------|---------|
| dérevo | derevcó |
| kolenó | kolénce |
| kopyto | kopýtce |
| ózero | ozercó |

Derevcó menjaet svoi listy s
každoju vesnoju.
Vykinut' kolence.
Kozlénok stal na kopytca.
Travjanistye luga s množestvom
nebol'six lužinok, ozercem i
ručejkov.

The suffix -ic had to be excluded from the above group. The structure of this morpheme can be compared to -ik in that both morphemes lack allomorphs which are used in all genders. There is also a difference in meaning between -#C diminutives and -ic diminutives similar to that between the -#K and -ik morphemes.

Examples of -ic diminutives are as follows:

Feminine:

| | |
|--------|----------|
| část' | častica |
| déva | devica |
| sestrá | sestrica |
| kóža | kožica |
| vodá | vodica |

Mel'čajšaja častica pyli.
On poljubil. devicu iz rabyn'.
Moja sestrice Ljubočka.
Kožica jabloka.
Vypit' vodicy.

Neuter:

| | |
|--------|----------|
| ímenie | ímen'ice |
| pis'mó | pis'mecó |

Ona priobrela nebol'soe
ímen'ice.
Sostav'te poxval'noe pis'meco.

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| plát'e | plat'ice | Na plat'ice č ěsnye uzory. |
| stixotvorénie | stixotvorén'ice | Prelestnoe stixotvorén'ice. |

In summary, the following suffixes occur in simple diminutives in Russian. As the same suffixes occur also as the final member of compound diminutives they will be referred to as terminal diminutive suffixes.

1. The morpheme -#K can occur as a terminal member with the following variants:

- k occurs before a vowel;
- ěk occurs under stress after stems ending in x or in a palatalized consonant (as indicated by a stem final j or ' in the non-diminutive form of the stem);¹
- ok occurs under stress after all other stems;
- ek occurs elsewhere.

2. The morpheme -ik occurs in this one shape in the masculine and neuter genders only.
3. The morpheme -#C occurs as -c before a vowel and as -ec elsewhere.
4. The morpheme -ic occurs in this one shape in the feminine and neuter genders only.

It will be noted from the examples given in previous sections (pp. 18-20) that stems ending in velar consonants exhibit a morphophonemic alternation to the effect that g, k, x are replaced by ž, č, š (e.g., běreg-berežók, čelovék-čelovéček, úxo-úško).

¹ Since before the allomorph -ěk a stem final j or ' (soft sign) disappears in the orthography (e.g., puzyr'-puzyrék, ručej-ručeěk), the non-diminutive form of the stem must be examined to determine the status of the stem final consonant. Note also that stem final x changes to š before a diminutive suffix, as stated in the text above.

Exam. es:

stem:

1. -#K:

líp-a

zolot-o

podúx-a

lyk-o

dúb

piróg

ručej

ogón'

čelovek

2. -ik:

škáf

slovár'

plec-o

first degree diminutive:

lip-#K-a

k

lipka

zolot-#K-o

k

zolotko

podux-#K-a

k

poduška

lyk-#K-o

k

lyčko

dub-#K + stress

ok. - pal.

dubók

pirog-#K + stress

ok. - pal.

pirožok

ručej-#K + stress

ek + pal.

ručeěk

ogon'-#K + stress

ek + pal.

ogoněk

čelovek-#K - stress

ek + pal.

čeloveček

škaf-ik

škáfik

slovar'-ik

slovárik

plec-ik-o

plečíkó

3. -#C:

sol'

sol'-#C-a

ózer-o

ózer-#C-o

brát

brat'-#C

óbraz

obraz-#C

4. -ic:

čast'

čast'-ic-a

sestr-á

sestr-ic-a

The compound suffixes which occur in Russian most frequently are combinations of the aforementioned simple suffixes. Since we referred to simple diminutives as terminal suffixes, compound diminutives will be referred to as non-terminal suffixes. The simple suffix -#K is usually the basis for a compound suffix of the structure -#K-#K. The surface outcome is the following suffixes: -oček, -eček in the masculine gender and -očk, -ečk and -eček in the feminine and neuter genders.

Examples of -#K-#K diminutives are as follows:

Másculine:

bereg

berežóček

Stanovilsja že molodoj
nevvol'nik na kruten'kij
berežoček.

dub

duboček

Zanočuem pod syrym dubom,
dubočkom zelenym.

lěd

ledoček

Pesoček sypletsja a ledoček
lomitsja.

nós

nosóček

I nosili molodye nosočki v
polosku.

ogón'

ogoneček

Ogoneček voskryval.

syn

synóček

U neě odin synoček.

Feminine:

bába

bábočka

Stala tut babačka kričat'.
Unil'nye jamočki propali na

jáma

jámočka

ščekax.

kníga

knižečka

On pokopalsja v knižečke,
razgladil straničku.

máma

mamočka

Milaja mamočka.

pápa

papočka

Papočka, kak on tebja unizil.

skaméjka

skaméečka

Sela na skamečku.

trubá

trúbočka

Zakurit' svoju malen'kuju

trubočku.

Neuter:

město

městečko

Vybrali dlja otdyxa udobnoe
mestečko.

okno

okošečko

Kassa s okošečkom.

plémja

plémečko

Ty, dvorjanskoe plemečko.

vrémja

vrémečko

Nu i vremečko bylo.

The meaning of compound suffixes is different from the meaning of the basic noun and is also different from the noun with a simple diminutive suffix attached.

Another possible combination of single suffixes which form a compound suffix -čik, which occurs in the masculine and (in one example only) in the neuter, is analyzed as a combination of the suffixes -#K and -ik.

Examples of the -čik diminutives are as follows:

báran

baránčik

Malen'kij barančik.

pakét

pakéťčik

Paketčik papiro.

stakán

stakánčik

Stakančik vody.

kolesó

kolésciko

Malen'koe kolesčiko.

A noun which takes as a simple diminutive suffix an allomorph of -#C forms the compound suffix by adding an allomorph of the simple suffix -#K. The surface outcome of this combination of suffixes is identical with the surface outcome of -#K-#K. There should be a slight

difference in meaning between the two, however. The only example available occurs in the neuter gender: the compound diminutive slověčko is derived from the simple diminutive slovcó, which contains the suffix -#C and not -#K.

The simple-suffix -#K is also used for forming compound suffixes of nouns with their simple diminutives in -ic. Examples of -ic-#K diminutives are as follows:

| | | |
|--------|------------|---|
| čast' | častička | Každyj čas unosit častičku. |
| kosá | kosička | bytija. |
| sestrá | 'sestrička | Volosy eë byli zapleteny v kosičku. Lisička-sestrička. |

In summary the following non-terminal suffixes occur in Russian:

1. The suffix -#K occurs as a non-terminal member in the following shapes:
 - č occurs before -ik
 - eč occurs after all stems ending in j or i and if unstressed after velar stems (see example 1 on p. 24)
 - oč occurs elsewhere;
2. The suffix -#C occurs as -eč;
3. The suffix -ic occurs as -ič.

It should be remembered that -ik does not occur as a non-terminal suffix.

Examples:

stem:

1. -#K-ik

škaf

second degree diminutive:

škaf-#K-ik
č ik
škáfčik

slovár'

slovar'-#K-ik
č ik
slovárcík

2. -#K-#K

ogón'

ogon'-#K-#K
eč ek
ogonéček

knig-a

knig-#k-#K-a
eč k
knížečka

lyk-o

lyk-#K-#K-o
eč k o
lyčečko

čelovék

čelovek-#K-#K
eč ek
čelovečeček

podúx-a

podux-#K-#K-a
eč k
podúšečka

lip-a

lip-#K-#K-a
oč k
lípočka

zolot-o

zolot-#K-#K-o
oč k
zolotočko

dub

dub-#K-#K
oč ek
dubóček

piróg

pirog-#K-#K
oč ek
pirožóček

3. -#C-#K

slov-o

slov-#C-#K-o
eč k
slovečko

4. -ic-#K

čast'

čast'-ic-#Ka
ič k
častička

sestr-á

sestr-ic-#K-a
ič k
sestrička

CHAPTER III

A DISTRIBUTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE DIMINUTIVE SUFFIXES IN CZECH

As in Russian the chief morphological means used for diminution in Czech is the suffix -k. The suffix -k occurs in all genders; it occurs in the following forms: -ek, -ik in the masculine gender and -k or -ek in the feminine and neuter genders.

1. The suffix -k.

The allomorphs -ek and -ik and -k appear to be in complementary distribution. The conditioning for complementary distribution in the case of -ik and -ek is not as clear as in the case of the Russian allomorphs -ok, -ěk, -ek. However, since there are only very few exceptions to the statement of distribution of these two morphs, set out below, and since they have the same meaning as far as the degree of diminution is concerned, it would seem preferable to view them as allomorphs of the same morpheme.

As stress is fixed in Czech, it plays no role in the derivation of diminutive expressions. The vowel preceding the suffix seems to be important. If the vowel is a so-called fleeting vowel (present in a cluster of consonants in the nominative case of masculine nouns and missing in oblique cases) the noun attaches the diminutive suffix -ik.

Examples of -ik diminutives are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| pytel (Gen. Sg. pytle) | pytlík |
| uhel | uhlík |
| uzel | uzlík |
| orel | orlík |

| | |
|-------|-------|
| ohen' | ohník |
| pes | psík |
| ret | rtík |

The last two nouns add the suffix -ík if the vowel which they contain is viewed as fleeting; if the vowel is permanent the nouns add the suffix -ek, and lengthen the stem vowel, but there is no apparent difference in meaning; e.g., yet, rtík, pes, psík versus rétek, pejsek.

This adds evidence to the validity of the above distribution statement.

The occurrence of -ík after consonant clusters in the above examples is paralleled by its occurrence after consonant clusters in nouns without the so-called fleeting vowel. These are always monosyllabic stems which have a final consonant cluster of resonants and obstruents in any sequence. Examples are as follows:

| | |
|-------|---------|
| čert | čertík |
| kmotr | kmotřík |
| pudl | pudlík |
| vítř | větřík |
| žebř | žebřík |

The suffix -ík is also used with monosyllabic stems which end in ň, š, ž, č, and bisyllabic stems ending in j. Examples as follows:

| | |
|-------|---------|
| kún | koník |
| koš | košík |
| nůž | nožík |
| pokoj | pokojík |

There are two exceptions to the above rule. The noun stupeň is not monosyllabic, but its diminutive suffix is ík or -ek; the same is true for the noun kříž, where the forms křížek, křížík are in free variation.

Masculine nouns which have on the surface feminine endings also take the diminutive suffix -ík. The same is true for masculine nouns which are formed with the derivative suffix ář or ař. Examples are as follows:

¹ Examples are based on my own knowledge as a native speaker of Czech.

táta
kalendár
stolař
vladař
sadař

tatík
kalendářík
stolařík
vladařík
sadařík

The above rules would account for all occurrences of the suffix -ík in the data, except for chlapík, lesík, nosík, hošík. These are exceptions.

The noun chlap has two possible diminutives chlápek or chlapík. These are semantically different. There could be a rule for the rest of the exceptions, but it would be very artificial.

The diminutive suffix -ek is attached to all nouns not mentioned previously. There are three exceptions: les, nos, hoch. Examples of -ek diminutives:

míč (Gen. Sg. micku)
papír
pruh
pavouk
obchod
kartáč
kočár

míček
papírek
proužek
pavouček
obchůdek
kartáček
kočárek

The above examples exhibit vowel lengthening or changes in the vowel quality. Normally, the vowel preceding the suffix changes if originally short, e.g., obchod obchůdek, list lístek, etc.

Examples of -ák diminutives in masculine nouns are as follows:

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| beran | beránek |
| děd | dědek |
| dům | domek |
| hoch | hošík |
| hráč | hrášek |
| kartáč | kartáček |
| klič | kliček |
| sníh | snižek |
| svetr | svetřík |
| osel | oslík |
| pás | pásek |
| pokoj | pokojík |
| šplhouň | šplhounek |
| talíř | talířek |
| vers | versík |
| vzor | vzorek |

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Na louce se pásl beránek. |
| Dědek se belhal ke škole. |
| Domek stál na kopci. |
| Hošík se usmíval. |
| Na zahradě roste hrášek. |
| Kartáček na zuby byl nepoužit. |
| Ivaně se kliček líbil. |
| Napadal čerstvy snižek. |
| Svetřík ležel na stole. |
| Oslík několikrát zahýkal. |
| Pásek ležel na židli. |
| Pokojík byl velmi útulný. |
| Martínek je šplhounek. |
| Talířek stojí na polici. |
| Versík byl velice dobře přednesen. |
| Vzorek leží před ní. |

In the feminine gender the most common allomorph of the -#K diminutive suffix is '-k, which precedes the gender marker in the nominative case. As in Russian, the allomorph -ek occurs in the Gen. Pl. of feminine and neuter nouns (e.g., babek, dírek, klubek, etc.). Examples of -#K diminutives in feminine nouns are as follows:

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| bába | babka | Babka běžela do kostela. |
| díra | dírka | Dírka byla vyspravená. |
| figura | figurka | Figurka Ivana vyvolávala smích. |
| kniha | knižka | Knižka leží na stole. |
| květina | květinka | Květinka je uvadlá. |
| mouka | moučka | Bramborová moučka se zřídka používá. |
| nádoba | nádobka | Nádobka na mýdlo. |
| ovce | ovečka | Ovečka se pásla. |
| povinnost | povinnůstka | Nepříjemná povinnůstka. |
| strana | stránka | Stránka byla založena. |
| žába | žábka | Žábka skáče z kamene na kámen. |

Examples of -#K diminutives in neuter nouns are as follows:

| | | |
|---------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| dláto | dlátko | Dlátko leželo na lavici. |
| jádro | jadérko | Jadérko vypadlo z jablka na podlahu. |
| klubko | klubíčko | Klubíčko vlny drázdilo kočičku. |
| líce | líčko | Její líčko bylo zrudlé hněvem. |
| mléko | mličko | Napij se mlička. |
| písmeno | písmenko | Věříš všemu do posledního písmenka. |
| zrno | zrnko | Nikde nebylo ani zrnka prachu. |

There are fewer examples available in the neuter gender than in the masculine and feminine. The suffix is attached in the same manner as in the feminine gender. The meanings of the allomorphs of the -#K diminutive suffix seem to correspond.

2. The suffix -#C.

The diminutive suffix -ic occurs in the feminine gender only. Masculine nouns take either the -ec or the -c suffix, depending on the phonological environment: the allomorph -ec occurring in final position and -c before a vowel (as in the oblique cases). As this is a matter of

the distribution of the suffixes and there is no evident difference in meaning, the three suffixes -ic, -ec and -c are analyzed as allomorphs of the morpheme -#C. This morpheme is not used with neuter nouns.

Examples of -#C diminutives in masculine nouns are as follows:

| | |
|--------|---|
| prapor | praporec (Gen. pl. Praporec vlál ve větru. praporce) |
| rám | rámeček V rámci našich možností. |
| vál | válec Parní válec připravoval |
| zvon | zvonec povrch pro silnici. Zvonec kláštera vyzváněl. |

Examples of -#C diminutives in feminine nouns are as follows:

| | |
|--------|--|
| hvězda | hvězdice Uprostřed stadionu byla |
| konev | konvice vytvořena cvičícími hvězdice. |
| růže | růžice Konvice byla plná vody. Větrna růžice se točila po větru. |

In summary the following suffixes occur in first degree diminutives in Czech:

1. The morpheme -#K can occur as a terminal member with the following variants:

-ik occurs after any of the following:

- the derivative suffix -ar/-ár
- monosyllabic stems ending in the palatal consonants ň, š, ž, t
- bisyllabic stems ending in j
- clusters of resonants and obstruents in any sequence
- stems which exhibit the fleeting vowel
- masculine nouns with feminine endings;

-k occurs elsewhere before a vowel;

-ek occurs elsewhere.

Exceptions: nos, les, hoch.

Free variation: stupeň, kříž, chlap.

2. The morpheme -#C can occur as a terminal member in the following shapes:

-ic occurs with feminine nouns;

-ec occurs in final position with masculine nouns;

-c occurs elsewhere.

From previous examples it will be noted that stems ending in velar consonants exhibit a morphophonemic alternation as was the case in Russian.

Examples:

| stem | first degree diminutive |
|------|-------------------------|
|------|-------------------------|

1. -#K:

báb-a

báb-#K-a

k

babka

dlát-o

dlát-#K-o

k

dlátko

mouk-a

mouk-#K-a

k

moučka

knih-a

knih-#K-a

k

knížka

mlék-o

mlék-#K-o

k

mléčko

kalendár

kalendár-#K

ik

kalendářík

les

les-#K

ik

lesík

hoch

hoch-#K

ik

hošík

kún'

kún-#K

ik

koník

kos

kos-#k

ik

košík

núž

núž-#K

ík

nožík

děšť

děšť-#K

ík

děštík

čert

čert-#K

ík

čertík

kmotr

kmotr-#K

ík

kmotřík

pavouk

pavouk-#K

ek

pavouček

rám

rám-#K

rámek

2. -#C:

hvězd-a

hvězd-#C-a

ic

hvězdice

rám

rám-#C

ec

rámečec

The compound diminutive suffixes are combinations of simple diminutive suffixes. The following forms of compound suffixes occur in Czech: -eček, íček in the masculine gender; ečka, íčka in the feminine; and ečko, íčko in the neuter gender.

Masculine nouns form the non-terminal suffix from the -#K diminutive; the surface form of -#K (non-terminal) is -íč or -eč. The distribution is the same as in the case of the terminal suffix in the masculine gender.

Examples of -#K-#K diminutives in the masculine gender are as follows:

| | | |
|----------|--------------|---|
| anděl | andileček | Z kostelního stropu se dívalo mnoho andilečků. |
| dům | domeček | Domeček stál na stráni. |
| kalendář | kalendáříček | Kalendáříček visel příliš vysoko. |
| košík | košíček | Košíček na ovoce stál v koutě. |
| list | lističek | Lističky padaly ze stromu. |
| rám | rámeček | Rámeček na obraz byl zakoupen. |
| vítěz | větříček | Foukal příjemný větříček. |
| uzel | uzlíček | Sel s uzlíčkem přes rameno. |
| žebř | žebříček | Žebříček stál u zdi. |

Masculine nouns also form the non-terminal suffix from the -#C diminutive. The results of the -#C-#K and -#K-#K strings are identical. An example of -#C-#K diminutives in the masculine gender is as follows:

hrad hradec̄ek Hradeček je malý.

Feminine nouns, which have the second degree diminutive -ička can have the non-terminal part of this suffix based on the diminutive suffix -#C; this would explain the length of the suffix. Other feminine nouns have the surface occurrence of -ečka, which can be seen as based on the -#K diminutive suffix.

Examples of -#C-#K diminutives in the feminine gender:

| | | |
|-------|----------|------------------------------------|
| bába | babička | Babička koupala vnoučátko. |
| cesta | cestička | Cestička byla vyšlapaná. |
| kráva | kravička | Kravička se pásala. |
| lámpa | lampička | Lampička stála na stolku. |
| perla | perlička | Na čele mu stály perličky potu. |
| tvář | tvářička | Svítily se mu tvářičky. |
| žába | žabička | Žabička skácala z kamene na kámen. |

Examples of -#K-#K diminutive suffixes in the feminine gender are as follows:

| | | |
|--------|-----------|---------------------------|
| kniha | knížečka | Knížečka ležela na stole. |
| část | částečka | Částečka prachu. |
| chvíle | chvilečka | Chvilečka štěstí. |
| figura | figurečka | Na rámu je figurečka. |

In the neuter gender the combination of -#K-#K can occur, as we had no occurrence of the simple diminutive suffix -#C. The distribution

of the allomorphs *-eč* and *-íč* which occurred in the masculine gender does not seem to apply. There are however only two nouns which can take *-íčko* only (*autíčko*, *očíčko*). All other neuter nouns take the *-eč* allomorph and alternately *-íč*, in free variation.

Examples of *-#K*-*#K* diminutive suffixes in the neuter gender are as follows:

| | | |
|--------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| auto | autíčko | Ivánek si hrál s autíčkem. |
| jezero | jezírečko | Jezírečko leželo v úžlabince. |
| místo | místečko | Nikde nebylo ani místečka. |
| okno | okénečko | Okénečko bylo otevřené. |
| zrno | zrněčko | Zrněčko pravdy. |

In summary, the following non-terminal suffixes occur in Czech:

1. The suffix *-#K* occurs as a non-terminal member in the following shapes:

-íč in the masculine gender in the environment in which the suffix *-ík* occurred;

-íč in the neuter gender in the forms *autíčko*, *očíčko*;
-eč occurs elsewhere.

2. The suffix *-#C* occurs in the following variants:

-íč in the feminine gender;

-eč in the masculine gender.

The surface outcome of the non-terminal diminutive suffix *-#K* and *-#C* in the masculine gender is identical; the sequence *-eček* is ambiguous as far as its origin is concerned. As in the few examples no lengthening occurs it can be used as evidence that these forms (*hradeček*, *koneček*) are secondary diminutives.

Examples:

stem

second degree diminutive

1. -#K-#K

vitr

vitr-#K-#K

ič ek

větříček

uhel

uhel-#K-#K

ič ek

uhliček

ohen'

ohen'-#K-#K

ič ek

ohniček

pokoj

pokoj-#K-#K

ič ek

pokojiček

táta

tata-#K-#K

ič ek

tatiček

truhlář

truhlář-#K-#K

ič ek

truhlaříček

rám

rám-#K-#K

eč ek

rámeček

stůl

stůl-#K-#K

eč ek

stoleček

knih-a

knih-#K-#K-a

eč k

knížečka

figur-a

figur-#K-#K-a

eč k

figurečka

míst-o

míst-#K-#K-o

eč k

místečko

měst-o

měst-#K-#K-o

eč k

městečko

2. -#C-#K

hvězd-a

konev

hlav-a

hrad

hvězd-#C-#K-a

ič k

hvězdička

konv-#C-#K-a

ic k

konvička

hlav-#C-#K-a

ič k

hlavička

hrad-#C-#K

eč ek

hradeček

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION: A COMPARISON OF THE DIMINUTIVE SUFFIXES IN RUSSIAN AND CZECH

In comparing Russian and Czech in the variety of allomorphs and morphemes of the -K and -C group, it will be advantageous to make a line-by-line comparison of them.

A. Terminal suffixes:

The following table of occurring terminal suffixes can be constructed:

| | Russian | | | | Czech | | |
|----------------|---------|-----|-----|----------------|-------|-----|----|
| Morpheme | m | f | n | Morpheme | m | f | n |
| -#K | -ek | | | -#K | -ek | -k | -k |
| oblique cases: | -ok | -k | -k | oblique cases: | -ik | -k | -k |
| | -ëk | | | | | | |
| | -k | -ek | -ek | | | | |
| | -ik | -ik | -- | -ik | | | |
| -#C | -ec | -c | -c | -#C | -ec | -ic | -- |
| oblique cases: | -c | -ec | -ec | oblique cases: | -c | -ic | -- |
| | | | | | | | |
| | -ic | -- | -ic | -ic | | | |

The overall impression from the table is the greater simplicity of the scheme in Czech than in Russian. In Czech the number of occurring morphemes is two as compared to four in Russian. The number of possible allomorphs is five in Czech as compared with eight in Russian. In general this variety of allomorphs in Russian is caused by the differentiation of palatalized vs. non-palatalized consonants as well as the

stress variations. Both of these factors are not present in Standard Contemporary Czech.

1. The suffix -#K.

If the -#K diminutive suffixes are compared it is evident that there is a greater number of allomorphs available in the masculine gender of Russian nouns. Each one of the allomorphs occurs in a different environment (-ok after non-palatal consonants and under stress, -ěk after palatals under stress and -ek elsewhere). The degree of diminutivity expressed by these three variants is the same; berežók, goróšek, ogoněk all have different allomorphs of the -#K diminutive suffix but the meaning of "smallness" or "dearness" is expressed in approximately the same degree in all three nouns.

The morpheme -#K has two allomorphs in Czech in the masculine gender, viz., -ek and -ík. The distribution of these two allomorphs is different from the one in Russian. Unlike in Russian, where the shape of the occurring allomorph is determined by a combination of stress and the nature of the stem final consonant, the distribution of -ek and -ík depends upon the nature of the stem final consonant or consonants. As in Russian, there is no apparent difference in the meaning of these allomorphs.

The -#K allomorph for the neuter and feminine genders have only one variant in the nominative case in both Russian and Czech, viz., -k. In the Genitive Pl., where no case ending follows the allomorph, -ek is used in both languages. The distribution of these allomorphs is the same in Russian and Czech.

2. The suffix -ik.

The Russian diminutive suffix -ik does not have a correspondence among the suffixes occurring in Czech. As this suffix is more intense in the meaning of diminutivity than the suffix -#K, a correspondence might be established between the Russian -ik and the compound suffix -#K-#K occurring in Czech. Consider the following examples: Russ. *gvózdkik*, Cz. *hřebíček*; Russ. *dómik*, Cz. *domeček*; Russ. *pakétik*, Cz. *baliček*.

In his research on diminutives in Czech, Neščimenko¹ claims that second degree diminutives are the most stable members of the derivation. This stability of second degree diminutives in Czech and the intensity of -ik diminutives in Russian are comparable.

3. The -#C suffix, the -ic suffix.

Among the other diminutive suffixes there is, as can be seen from the table, more complexity in Russian. There are two morphemes, -#C and -ic, present in Russian, and these have three separate allomorphs. There is a difference in meaning between the morphemes -#C and -ic. Within the morpheme -#C similar rules for the distribution of allomorphs apply as in the case of -#K, but the number of possible allomorphs in the masculine gender is limited to one. The Russian morpheme -ic does not occur in the masculine gender.

In Czech the allomorphs -ec and -ic can be grouped together as being in complementary distribution because there is no instance of

¹ Neščimenko, "Deminutivnye, derivacionnye ceponki v českém jazyku," Voprosy jazykoznanija, 1970, Vol. 6, pp. 46-59.

overlap. The meaning of the two suffixes is identical. Furthermore, these suffixes are no longer productive in Czech.

B. Non-terminal suffixes:

A similar comparison can be drawn between the non-terminal suffixes of Russian and Czech:

| | <u>Russian</u> | | | | <u>Czech</u> | | |
|----------|----------------|-----|-----|----------|--------------|-----|-----|
| Morpheme | m | f | n | Morpheme | m | f | n |
| -eč | -eč | -eč | -eč | -#K | -eč | -eč | -eč |
| -oc | -oc | -oc | -oc | -#C | -ic | -- | -ic |
| -č | | | | | | | |
| -#C | -eč | -- | -- | -#C | -eč | -ic | -- |
| -ic | -- | -ic | -ic | | | | |

In Russian there are more possibilities of allomorphs occurring in the non-terminal suffix. The allomorphs of -#K are in complementary distribution; i.e., -č occurs before -ik; -eč occurs after palatals and -oc occurs elsewhere.

The allomorphs of the morpheme -#C and -#K are identical in the masculine gender in Czech. The difference in length in the allomorph -ik in the feminine gender as compared to the allomorph -ík in the masculine gender causes the distinction between the two non-terminal morphemes.

C. Compound suffixes:

The combinations of non-terminal and terminal suffixes which occur in Russian and Czech can be tabulated as follows:

| | <u>Russian</u> | | | | <u>Czech</u> | | |
|-----------|----------------|-------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Morphemes | m | f | n | Morphemes | m | f | n |
| -oček | -očka | -ocko | | -eček | -ečka | -ečko | |
| -#K-#K | -eček | -ečka | -ečko | -#K-#K | -iček | -ička | -ičko |
| -#K-ik | -čik | -- | -čiko | -- | | | |
| -#C-#K | -- | -- | -ečko | -#C-#K | -eček | -ička | -- |
| -ic-#K | -- | -ička | -- | | | | |

The above table is a natural correlate of the previously given tables on pages 38 and 41. The contrasts between the Russian and Czech systems have been mentioned with the appropriate tables. On the whole, the model of Czech diminutives is a simpler system as opposed to the Russian model. The number of morphemes in the diminutive suffixes in terminal position has been reduced from four in Russian to two in Czech; in non-terminal position, there are three morphemes in Russian in comparison to two in Czech. The non-terminal distribution of morphemes applies to compound suffixes.

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APPENDIX

I. RUSSIAN DATA

1:1 #k diminutive suffixes

1:2 Masculine gender

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss* |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| béreg | berežók | berežóček | bank |
| bóg | božók | - | god |
| býk | byčók | - | bull |
| cár | carék | - | czar |
| cvét | cvetók | cvetóček | flower |
| čeln | čelnók | - | boat |
| - | čulók | čuloček | stocking |
| dén | denék | deněček | day |
| dólg | dolžók | - | debt |
| dóm | domók | - | house |
| drúg | družók | - | friend |
| dúb | dubók | - | oak |
| durák | duracók | - | fool |
| gláz | glazók | - | eye |
| góľub' | golubók | - | pigeon |

*Only base forms are translated into English, as there are no exact equivalents of expressive derivatives.

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| górod | gorodók | - | town |
| goróx | goróšek | - | pea |
| gréx | grešók | - | sin |
| gríb | gribók | - | mushroom |
| jazýk | jazyčók | - | tongue |
| krúg | kružók | - | circle |
| kulák | kulačók | - | fist |
| kúst | kustók | kustóček | bush |
| kumán | kumanék | - | friend |
| léd | ledók | ledóček | ice |
| lés | lesók | lesoček | forest |
| list | listók | - | leaf |
| loskút | loskutók | loskutoček | rag |
| lúg | lužók | lužoček | meadow |
| mólot | molotók | - | hammer |
| nógot' | nogotók | - | fingernail |
| nós | nosók | - | nose |
| óbraz | obrazók | - | picture |
| ogón | ogonék | ogoneček | fire |
| órden | ordenók | - | order |
| oréx | orešek | - | nut |
| óstrov | ostrovók | - | island |
| páren' | parenék | - | fellow |
| petúx | petušók | - | cock |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| piróg | p. | - | tart |
| - | platok | platóček | scarf |
| pórox | porošók | - | dust |
| puzýr' | puzyrék | - | bubble |
| róg | rožók | - | corner |
| rót | rotók | - | lip |
| ručej | ručéek | - | tributary |
| sapóg | sapožók | - | slipper |
| starík | staričók | - | old man |
| stíx | stišók | - | poem |
| svíst | svistók | - | whistle |
| sundúk | sundučók | - | box |
| sýn | synók | synoček | son |
| šág | šažók | - | step |
| taibún | tabunók | - | head |
| úgol | ugolók | - | corner |
| úgol' | úgolek | - | coal |
| uzél | uzelók | - | bundle |
| vólos | volosók | - | hair |
| zúb. | zubók | - | tooth |
| zvón | zvonók | zvonóček | bell |
| ženix | ženišók | - | groom |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1:3 Feminine gender | | | |
| bába | bábka | bábočka | old woman |
| bednijága | bednjážka | - | poor fellow |
| beséda | besédka | - | conversation |
| blóxa | blóška | - | flea |
| blúza | blúzka | - | blouse |
| borodá | boródka | - | beard |
| bumága | bumážka | - | paper |
| čáša | čáska | čášečka | cup |
| déva | dévka | dévočka | girl |
| djádja | djád'ka | - | uncle |
| doróga | doróžka | - | way |
| doč' | dóčka | - | daughter |
| dugá | dúžka | - | arch |
| dýra | dýrka | - | hole |
| el' | ělka | ěločka | fir tree |
| figúra | figúrka | - | figure |
| golová | golóvka | - | head |
| góra | górká | - | hill |
| gorst' | górstka | górstočka | handful |
| grúppa | grúppka | - | group |
| istórija | istórijka | - | story |
| jáblonja | jáblon'ka | - | apple tree |
| jáma | jámka | jámočka | pit |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| kárta | - | kártočka | card |
| kníga | knížka | knížečka | book |
| kartina | kartinka | kartínočka | picture |
| kómnata | kómnatka | - | room |
| koróna | korónka | - | crown |
| koróva | koróvka | - | cow |
| korzína | korzinka | - | basket |
| kóška | kóšečka | - | cat |
| króvat' | krovátka | - | bed |
| krýša | krýška | krýšečka | roof |
| kvartíra | kvartírka | - | flat |
| lávka | lávočka | - | store |
| lénta | - | léntočka | ribbon |
| lípa | lípka | lípocka | lime tree |
| - | lódka | lódočka | boat |
| lóšad' | lošádka | - | horse |
| - | lóžka | lóžečka | spoon |
| lysína | lysinka | - | bald spot |
| minúta | minútka | - | minute |
| mogíla | mogílka | - | grave |
| morščína | morščínka | - | wrinkle |
| nit' | nítka | - | thread |
| nóga | nóžka | - | leg |
| ovcá | ovéčka | - | sheep |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| pálka | páločka | - | cane |
| pelerína | pelerinka | - | pelerine |
| pésnja | pésenka | - | song |
| podkóva | podkóvka | - | horse shoe |
| poljána | poljánka | - | clearing |
| pólka | póločka | - | shelf |
| podúxa | podúška | podúšečka | pillow |
| pružina | pružinka | - | spring |
| ptíca | ptička | - | bird |
| rabóta | rabótka | - | work |
| rámka | rámočka | - | frame |
| reká | réčka | - | river |
| rubáxa | rubáška | rubášečka | shirt |
| ruká | rúčka | - | hand |
| rýba | rýbka | - | fish |
| set' | sétka | - | net |
| skobá | skóbka | - | staple |
| sobáka | sobáčka | - | dog |
| straníca | stranička | - | page |
| súma | súmka | súmočka | bag |
| šéja | šéjka | - | neck |
| šljápa | šljápka | - | hat |
| ščeká | ščečka | - | cheek |
| | ščětka | ščetocka | brush |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| šúba | šúbka | - | overcoat |
| tetrád' | tetrádka | - | notebook |
| tětja | tětka | - | aunt |
| travá | trávka | - | grass |
| trúba | trúbka | trúbočka | horn |
| úlica | úlička | - | street |
| - | verěvká | verěvočka | rope |
| žená | žénka | - | wife |
| žérd' | - | žérdočka | pole |
| žíla | žílka | - | vein |

1:4 Neuter gender

| | | | |
|---------|----------|----------|--------|
| jábloko | jábločko | - | apple |
| lýko | lýčko | - | bast |
| oblako | óblačko | - | cloud |
| oknó | okóško | okóšečko | window |
| ózero | ozérkó | - | lake |
| úxo | úško | - | ear |
| zoloto | zolotko | - | gold |

1:4 -s suffixes

1:5 -ik in the masculine gender

| | | | |
|------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| avtomobil' | - | avtomobil'čik | car |
| barán | - | baránčik | ram |
| bukét | bukétik | - | bunch |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| cvét | cvétik | - | flower |
| čás | čásik | - | hour, time |
| dóm | dómik | - | house |
| dožd' | dóždik | dóždiček | rain |
| fonár | fonárik | - | lantern |
| gvozd' | gvózdk | - | nail |
| kalendár | kalendárik | - | calendar |
| komár | komárik | - | mosquito |
| kot | kótik | - | cat |
| kovér | kóvrik | - | carpet |
| krest | kréstik | - | cross |
| kust | kústik | - | bush |
| mjač | mjáčik | - | game |
| most | móstik | - | bridge |
| nos | nósik | - | nose |
| nož | nóžik | - | knife |
| pakét | pakétik | pakétčik | parcel |
| pálec | pál'čik | - | thumb |
| rot | rótik | - | lip |
| raz | rázik | - | one time |
| sad | sádik | - | orchard |
| slon | slónik | - | elephant |
| slovár' | slovárik | - | dictionary |
| stakán | - | stakánčik | glass |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| stul | stúlik | - | chair |
| šar | šárik | - | ball |
| škaf | škáfik | škafčík | cupboard |
| topór | topórik | - | axe |
| vint | vintík | - | screw |
| zub | zúbik | - | tooth |
| 1:6 -ik in the neuter gender | | | |
| licó | ličiko | - | face |
| plečó | pléčiko | - | shoulder |
| kolesó | kolésíko | - | wheel |
| 1:7 #C diminutive suffixes | | | |
| 1:8 Masculine gender | | | |
| brat | brátec | - | brother |
| moróz | morózec | - | frost |
| óbraz | obrazéc | - | figure |
| xleb | xlébec | - | bread |
| 1:9 Feminine gender | | | |
| dver' | dvr'ca | - | door |
| sol' | sól'ca | - | salt |
| 1:10 Neuter gender | | | |
| dérevo | dérevce | - | wood |
| koleno | kolénce | - | knee |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| kopyto | kopýtce | - | hoof |
| ózero | ozercó | - | lake |
| poleno | polénce | - | log |
| sálo | sál'ce | - | fat |
| télo | tél'ce | - | body |

1:11 -ic suffixes

1:12 -ic in the feminine gender

| | | | |
|--------|----------|-----------|--------|
| čast' | častíca | častička | part |
| déva | devíca | - | girl |
| sestrá | sestríca | sestríčka | sister |
| vodá | vodíca | - | water |
| kniga | knižíca | - | book |
| metél' | metélica | - | storm |

1:13 ... in the neuter gender

| | | | |
|---------|----------|---|----------|
| máslo | máslice | - | butter |
| pi | pís'meco | - | letter |
| pláťe | plátice | - | dress |
| sáňanie | sol'nice | - | meeting |
| zádanie | zdánice | - | building |

II. CZECH DAT

2:1 #K dat ... suffixes

2:2 Masculine gender

| | | | |
|-------|---------|-----------|-------|
| anděl | andílek | andíleček | angel |
|-------|---------|-----------|-------|

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| - | balík | balíček | parcel |
| beran | bára | beráneček | ram |
| brouk | brouček | - | beetle |
| čert | čertík | čertiček | devil |
| člověk | človíček | - | man |
| člun | člunek | čluneček | boat |
| děd | dědek | dědeček | grandfather |
| děšť | děštík | děštíček | rain |
| dům | domek | domeček | house |
| dub | doubek | doubeček | oak |
| dráp | drápek | drápeček | claw |
| drob | drobek | drobeček | crumb |
| hák | háček | - | hook |
| holub | holoubek | holoubeček | pigeon |
| hoch | hošík | hošíček | boy |
| hráč | hrášek | - | pea |
| hřib | hříbek | hříbeček | mushroom |
| chlap | chlapiček | chlapiček | man |
| chlév | chlívek | chlíveček | stall |
| chlup | chloupek | chloupeček | hair |
| chudák | chudaček | - | poor fellow |
| jazyk | jazýček | - | tongue |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| kalendář | kalendářík | kalendáříček | calendar |
| kalich | kalíšek | - | glass |
| kámen | kamének | kaméneček | stone |
| kartáč | kartáček | - | brush |
| klič' | kliček | - | key |
| klobouk | klobouček | - | hat |
| kluk | klouček | - | boy |
| kmotr | kmotřík | kmotříček | godfather |
| | knedlík | knedlíček | dumpling |
| kocour | kocourek | - | cat |
| kočár | kočárek | - | cart |
| kohout | kohoutek | - | cock |
| koláč | koláček | - | cake |
| kruh | kroužek | - | circle |
| kún' | koník | koníček | horse |
| kos | košík | košíček | basket |
| kožich | kožíšek | - | fur |
| krajíc | krajíček | - | slice |
| krk | krček | - | neck |
| krök | kruček | - | step |
| kříž | křížek | křížeček | cross |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| květ | kvítek | kvíteček | flower |
| les | lesík | lesíček | forest |
| leták | letáček | - | brochure |
| letohrad | letohrádek | letohrádeček | summer palace |
| list | lístek | lísteček | leaf |
| lupen | lupínek | lupíneček | leaf |
| míč | míček | - | ball |
| mlyň | mlynek | mlyneček | mill |
| mozek | mozeček | - | brain |
| mrzák | mrzáček | - | cripple |
| most | můstek | můsteček | bridge |
| nos | nosík | nosiček | nose |
| napínák | napínáček | - | tack |
| nůž | nožík | nožiček | knife |
| obchod | obchudek | obchudeček | store |
| oblak | obláček | - | cloud |
| oblouk | oblouček | - | arch |
| obraz | obrázek | obrázeček | picture |
| ohň | ohník | ohníček | fire |
| ořech | oříšek | - | nut |
| ostrov | ostruvek | ostruveček | island |
| orel | orlík | orliček | eagle |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree. Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| palouk | palouček | - | clearning |
| panák | panáček | - | figure |
| papír | papírek | papíreček | paper |
| paroh | parožek | - | horn |
| pás | pásek | páseček | belt |
| park | pařčík | - | park |
| pavouk | pavouček | - | spider |
| pazour | pažourek | pazoureček | claw |
| pes | psík | psíček | dog |
| plamen | plamínek | plamíneček | flame |
| pokoj | pokojík | pokojíček | room |
| potok | potuček | - | stream |
| pramen | pramínek | pramíneček | source |
| prach | prášek | - | dust |
| pruh | proužek | - | strip |
| provaz | provázek | provázeček | string |
| pták | ptáček | - | bird |
| pudl | pudlík | pudliček | poodle |
| puchýř | puchýřek | - | blister |
| - | puntík | puntiček | dot |
| pupen | pupínek | pupíneček | bud |
| pytel | pytlík | pytlíček | sack |
| rám | rámek | rámeček | frame |
| řetěz | řetízek | řetízeček | chain |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| strom | stromek | stromeček | tree |
| strýc | strýček | - | uncle |
| střevíc | střevíček | - | shoe |
| střep | střípek | střípeček | splinter |
| stupen' | stupínek | stupíneček | step |
| svaz | svazek | svazeček | bundle |
| syn | synek | syneček | son |
| šat | šátek | šáteček | cloth |
| - | špalík | špalíček | log |
| šroub | šroubek | šroubeček | screw |
| sešít | sešitek | sešiteček | note book |
| schod | schůdek | schudeček | step |
| sklep | sklípek | sklípeček | cellar |
| skřivan | skřivánek | skříváneček | lark |
| slavík | slaviček | - | nightingale |
| slinták | slintáček | - | bib |
| sud | soudek | soudeček | barrel |
| táč | tácek | - | tray |
| talíř | talířek | talířeček | plate |
| táta | tatík | tatiček | father |
| ubožák | ubožáček | - | poor fellow |
| ubrus | ubrousek | ubrouseček | cloth |
| uhel | uhlík | uhliček | coal |
| uzel | uzlík | uzlíček | bundle |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| vák | váček | - | sack |
| válec | váleček | - | roller |
| večer | večírek | - | evening |
| vítr | větrík | větříček | wind |
| vlas | vlásek | vláseček | hair |
| vlk | vlček | - | wolf |
| vrták | vrtáček | - | drill |
| vzduch | vzdoušek | - | air |
| vzor | vzorek | vzoreček | pattern |
| - | zadek | zadéček | hind part |
| záhon | záhonek | záhoneček | bed |
| zajíc | zajíček | - | hare |
| zámek | zámeček | - | lock |
| zvon | zvonek | zvoneček | bell |
| zub | zoubek | zoubeček | tooth |
| žebř | žebřík | žebříček | ladder |
| žlab | žlábek | žlábeček | groove |

2:3 Feminine gender

| | | | |
|--------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| bába | babka | babička | grandmother |
| beseda | besídka | besídečka | talk |
| blána | blanka | blanička | membrane |
| blecha | bleská | - | flea |
| blúza | blúzka | bluzička | blouse |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| bota | botka | botička | shoe |
| brada | bradka | bradička | chin |
| bouda | budka | boudička | hut |
| bylina | bylinka | bylinečka | herb |
| cesta | - | cestička | way |
| část | částka | částečka | particle |
| dčera | dcerka | dcerečka | daughter* |
| deka | dečka | - | cover |
| deska | - | deštička | board |
| díra | dírká | dírečka | hole |
| figura | figurka | figurečka | figure |
| halena | halenka | halenečka | blouse |
| hlava | hlávka | hlavíčka | head |
| hodina | hodinka | hodiňečka | hour |
| hrst | hrstka | hrstečka | handful |
| hrouda | hrudka | hroudečka | clod |
| chvíle | chvilka | chvilečka | moment |
| jablon' | jablon'ka | - | apple tree |
| jáma | jamka | jamička | pit |
| jedle | - | jedlička | fir tree |
| karta | kartka | kartička | card |
| klec | klíčka | - | cage |
| kniha | knížka | knížečka | book |
| kobliha | kobližka | - | cake |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| kobyla | kobylka | kobylečka | mare |
| - | kočka | kočička | cat |
| komora | komůrka | komurečka | room |
| korouhev | - | korouhvička | banner |
| koruna | korunka | koruněčka | crown |
| košile | košilka | košilečka | shirt |
| kuže | kožka | kužička | skin |
| kráva | kravka | kravíčka | cow |
| kudrlina | kudrlinka | - | wave |
| kytice | kytička | - | flowers |
| láhev | - | lahvička | bottle |
| lámpa | - | lampička | lamp |
| lan' | lan'ka | - | doe |
| lat' | lat'ka | - | lath |
| lavice | lavička | - | bench |
| lednice | lednička | - | fridge |
| lípa | lipka | lípečka | lime tree |
| lod' | lod'ka | lodíčka | boat |
| lopata | lopatka | lopatečka | shovel |
| louka | loučka | - | meadow |
| louže | - | loužička | puddle |
| lysina | lysinka | lysinečka | bald spot |
| lžice | lžička | - | spoon |
| máma | mamka | maminka | mother |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| motyka | motyčka | - | hoe |
| mouka | moučka | - | flour |
| mříž | mřížka | - | bar |
| nádoba | nádobka | nádobíčka | container |
| nádrž | nádržka | - | reservoir |
| nit' | nitka | - | thread |
| obruč | obroučka | - | band |
| opice | opička | - | ape |
| otep | otýpka | - | bundle |
| ovce | ovečka | - | sheep |
| lédvina | ledvinka | - | kidney |
| police | polička | - | shelf |
| pavučina | pavučinka | - | cobweb |
| pentle | - | pentlička | ribbon |
| perla | - | perlička | pearl |
| pila | pilka | pilečka | saw |
| píštala | píštalka | píštalička | whistle |
| pléna | plenka | plenička | dipper |
| podkova | podkůvka | podkuvečka | horse shoe |
| poklice | poklička | - | cover |
| postava | - | postavička | figure |
| postel | postýlka | - | bed |
| příhrada | příhrádka | příhrádečka | compartment |
| pumpa | - | pumpička | pump |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| punčocha | punčoška | - | stocking |
| putna | putýnka | putýnečka | kit |
| roura | rourka | rourečka | pipe |
| ruka | ručka | ručička | hand |
| růže | - | růžička | rose |
| ryba | rybka | rybička | fish |
| řeka | říčka | - | river |
| sestra | - | sestřička | sister |
| sít' | sít'ka | - | net |
| skála | skalka | skalička | rock |
| sklenice | sklenička | - | glass |
| skřín' | skřín'ka | - | cupboard |
| skulina | skulinka | - | slot |
| skupina | skupinka | - | group |
| slabost | slaboustka | - | weakness |
| slza | - | slzička | tear |
| stuha | stužka | stužtička | ribbon |
| světnice | světnička | - | room |
| sýkora | sýkorka | - | tit |
| šablona | šablonka | - | pattern |
| šnůra | šnúrka | šnúrečka | lace |
| taška | taštička | - | bag |
| teta | tetka | tetička | aunt |
| tráva | travka | travička | grass |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| trouba | trubka | trubička | pipe |
| tvář | - | tvářička | face |
| tyč | tyčka | - | stick |
| ulice | ulička | - | street |
| věž | vížka | věžička | tower |
| vidlice | vidlička | - | fork |
| výbava | - | výbavička | equipment |
| záclona | záclonka | záclonečka | curtain |
| zahrada | zahrádka | zahrádečka | garden |
| záštěra | záštěrka | - | apron |
| závora | závorka | závorečka | bracket |
| zpráva | - | zprávička | news |
| žába | žabka | žabička | frog |
| židle | - | židlička | chair |
| žíla | žilka | žilečka | vain |
| žena | žínka | - | wife |
| žláza | žlázka | žlázička | gland |

2:4 Neuter nouns

| | | | |
|-------|---------|-----------|----------|
| auto | - | autičko | car |
| bidlo | bidélko | - | crossbar |
| dílo | dílko | dílečko | work |
| dláto | dlátko | dlátečko | chisel |
| hrdlo | hrdélko | - | throat |
| jádro | jadérko | jadérečko | core |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| jezero | jezírko | jezírečko | lake |
| kladivo | kladívko | kladivečko | hammer |
| klubko | klubičko | - | báll of wool |
| koloto | - | kolečko | wheel |
| kolenko | kolínkó | kolínečko | knee |
| kopyto | kopýtko | kopytečko | hoof |
| lano | lanko | lanečko | rope |
| lice | ličko | - | face |
| město | - | městečko | town |
| místo | - | místečko | place |
| oko | očko | očičko | eye |
| okno | okénko | okénečko | window |
| péro | pérko | pérečko | feather |
| poleno | polínko | polínečko | log |
| prkno | prkénko | - | board |
| rameno | ramíntko | ramínečko | shoulder |
| sklo | - | skélko | glass |
| semeno | semínko | semínečko | seed |
| zrno | zrnko | zrnéčko | grain |
| žebro | žebírko | žebírečko | rib |

| Underlying Noun | First Degree Diminutive | Second Degree Diminutive | Gloss |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| 2:5 #C suffixes | | | |
| 2:6 Masculine gender | | | |
| hrad | hradec | hradeček | castle |
| prapor | praporec | praporeček | banner |
| | věnec | věneček | wreath |
| 2:7 Feminine gender | | | |
| hvězda | hvězdice | hvězdička | star |
| pánev | pánvice | pánvička | pan |
| pokladna | pokladnice | pokladnička | strong box |
| růže | růžice | růžička | rose |