



AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES  
INSTITUTE OF IRANIAN STUDIES



FWF Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

## Deadjectival verb formation in Indo-European: Historical and theoretical perspectives

### Call for Papers

Productive means for deriving deadjectival verbs exist in all older Indo-European languages, but these have for the most part not been the subject of systematic study and analysis from the perspective of comparative reconstruction or theoretical linguistics. There are several reasons for this fact: On one hand, verbal (especially internal) derivation is less examined than nominal derivation, and within the verbal domain one can notice a research gap between primary and secondary derivatives. On the other hand, their synchronic productivity makes it difficult to distinguish forms that are “*einzel sprachlich*” from cognates. Furthermore, more research is needed to establish valid diagnostics for derivational directionality (cf. Grestenberger & Kastner forthcoming) – the problem therefore lies in the state of research as well in methodology.

As a consequence, existing case studies on denominal and deadjectival verb formation (e.g. Tucker 1990) have raised a multitude of questions for comparative reconstruction. This potential is reinforced by recent work on the factitive verbs of the “*newahhi*-type” (Jasanoff 2003, Rau 2009b, Sasseville 2015, 2020) or the discussion on a potential deadjectival origin of the PIE u-presents, respectively the class of simple thematic presents (cf. Villanueva-Svensson 2021, Jasanoff forthcoming).

This workshop aims to bring together researchers from Indo-European studies as well as from theoretical linguistics to discuss deadjectival verb formation from different perspectives, as part of the FWF-funded project “The diachrony of verbal categories and categorizers” (V 850G). Submissions from MA- and PhD-students are especially welcome. The workshop will take place at the Institute of Iranian Studies at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna from **March 10-11, 2023** and is planned as an in person event, though a livestream/zoom option for guests will be made available.

We invite abstract submissions for presentations of 30 minutes (in English or German), to be followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Abstracts should be anonymous and not exceed more than one page. Please send your abstracts as PDF files to [deadjectivals@oeaw.ac.at](mailto:deadjectivals@oeaw.ac.at) by **Sept. 30, 2022**. Notifications of acceptance will be sent around Nov. 15. If you have any questions, please use the conference e-mail address or contact the organizers directly: Laura Grestenberger ([laura.grestenberger@oeaw.ac.at](mailto:laura.grestenberger@oeaw.ac.at)) and Viktoria Reiter ([viktoria.reiter@univie.ac.at](mailto:viktoria.reiter@univie.ac.at)).

We are pleased to announce the following keynote speakers at this workshop:

- Jeremy Rau, Harvard University
- Miguel Villanueva Svensson, Vilnius University

Research questions that could be addressed in the presentations include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Which suffixes/derivational possibilities to derive verbs from adjectives can be found synchronically in the Indo-European languages? Which of these are inherited, which are einzelsprachlich? When/why do periphrastic constructions arise in these contexts?
- How do accent and ablaut interact within those derivations?
- Which diagnostics are needed or applicable to distinguish forms that are einzelsprachlich from cognates? How can directionality (deadjectival verb vs. deverbal adjective) be established? What are synchronic criteria for classifying a form as deadjectival?
- How do these derivations interact with voice, aspect, and tense? Why are some derivatives media tantum when others alternate?
- How do deadjectivals evolve diachronically? When and why are they reanalysed as primary?
- Cross-linguistically, change of state verbs are frequently derived from or closely associated morphologically and semantically to primary property concept adjectives (Hale & Keyser 1998, 2002; Harley 2005, 2011, Koontz-Garboden 2005, Francez & Koontz-Garboden 2017, etc.). To what extent does this apply to the Indo-European Caland system as well and which types of deadjectivals can be ascribed to the Caland system (cf. Nussbaum 1976, Rau 2009a, Rau 2013, Bozzone 2016)?

## Bibliography

- Bozzone, Chiara. 2016. The origin of the Caland system and the typology of adjectives. *Indo-European Linguistics* 4/1, 15–52.
- Francez, Itamar, and Andrew Koontz-Garboden. 2017. *Semantics and morphosyntactic variation: Qualities and the grammar of property concepts*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Grestenberger, Laura and Itamar Kastner. 2022. Directionality in cross-categorical derivations. Forthcoming.
- Hale, Ken, and Samuel J. Keyser. 1998. The basic elements of argument structure. In *MIT Working Papers in Linguistics* 32, 73–118.
- Hale, Ken, and Samuel J. Keyser. 2002. *Prolegomenon to a theory of argument structure*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Harley, Heidi. 2005. How do verbs get their names? Denominal verbs, manner incorporation, and the ontology of verb roots in English. In *The syntax of aspect: Deriving thematic and aspectual interpretation*, ed. N. Erteschik-Shir and T. Rapoport, 42–64. Oxford University Press.
- Harley, Heidi. 2011. A minimalist approach to argument structure. In *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*, ed. C. Boeckx, 426–47. Oxford University Press.
- Jasanoff, Jay H. 2003. *Hittite and the Indo-European verb*. Oxford University Press.
- Jasanoff, Jay H. Forthcoming. PIE *\*g<sup>w</sup>ih<sub>3</sub>ue/o-* ‘live’, u-presents, and the prehistory of the thematic conjugation.
- Koontz-Garboden, Andrew. 2005. On the typology of state/change of state alternations. In Booij, G. & van Marle, J. (eds.), *Yearbook of Morphology 2005*, 83–117. Heidelberg: Springer.
- Nussbaum, Alan J. 1976. *Caland's "Law" and the Caland System*. Ph.D. thesis, Harvard University.
- Rau, Jeremy. 2009a. *Indo-European nominal morphology: the decads and the Caland system*. Innsbruck: Institut für Sprachen und Literaturen der Universität Innsbruck.
- Rau, Jeremy. 2009b. Myc. *te-re-ja* and the athematic inflection of the Greek contract verbs. In *East and West. Papers in Indo-European Studies*, ed. K. Yoshida and B. Vine, 181–88. Bremen: Hempen.
- Rau, Jeremy. 2013. Notes on state-oriented verbal roots, the Caland system, and primary verb morphology in Indo-Iranian and Indo-European. In *Multi nominis grammaticus: Studies in classical and Indo-European linguistics in honor of Alan J. Nussbaum on the occasion of his 65th birthday*, ed. A. I. Cooper, J. Rau & M. Weiss, 255–273. Ann Arbor: Beech Stave.
- Sasseville, David. 2015. Anatolische verbale Stammbildung: das Faktitivsuffix *\*-eh<sub>2</sub>-*. *MSS* 69, 281–297.
- Sasseville, David. 2021. *Anatolian verbal stem formation. Luwian, Lycian and Lydian*. Leiden: Brill.
- Tucker, Elizabeth. 1990. *The Creation of Morphological Regularity: Early Greek Verbs in -έω, -άω, -όω, -ύω and -ίω*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.
- Villanueva-Svensson, Miguel. 2021. The origin of the Indo-European simple thematic presents. In *Indo-European Linguistics* 9/1, 264–292.