

On The Issue Of Polivertex Word-Formation Nests In The Russian Language

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Abstract: In this article, the word-formation family (WF) is the object of linguistic research and is analyzed as a complex hierarchical microsystem represented by paradigms and chains. Particular attention is paid to polyvertex word-formation families.

Keywords: Derivational cluster, complex unit, polynuclear derivational cluster, Russian word-formation, types of derivational clusters.

Introduction: In the derivational system of the Russian language, the nest occupies a special place as one of the complex and unique linguistic units. A nest is a structured, multidimensional system composed of numerous smaller components, each of which is an independent linguistic unit with its own function and meaning. This approach allows for a deeper understanding of the internal connections and mechanisms of word formation in the Russian language.

The study of the features and structure of the word-formation family (WF) has been widely reflected in the works of many outstanding researchers, such as G.A. Bochkareva, I.V. Altman, E.L. Ginzburg, N.S. Dmitriyeva, M.M. Zakaryan, A.M. Zaliznyak, M.Yu. Kazak, M.N. Yantsenetskaya, P.A. Soboleva, I.S. Ulukhanov, E.A. Zemskaya, A.N. Tikhonov and a number of other scientists. These works contributed to the formation of a modern understanding of how the elements of the nest interact and how they form complex word-formation structures.

In addition to the central category of the word-formation family, modern linguistics pays close attention to its internal components – the word-formation paradigm (WFP) and the word-formation chain (WFC). We analyzed the question of the word-formation chain in more detail in the article “Word-formation chain as a complex unit of Russian word-formation” [1, 184-186].

These elements act as key organizers, structuring the interaction of verbal forms and ensuring the regularity

of derivational processes in the Russian language.

The word-formation paradigm (WFP) is a set of interconnected word forms derived from one root base, where each form occupies a fixed position in the system of morphological transformations. The word-formation chain (WFC), in turn, models the successive stages of derivation, from the base word to its derivatives, emphasizing the linear evolution of meanings and affixes. Together, they guarantee the systematicity and predictability of word-formation mechanisms, reflecting the underlying patterns of linguistic evolution.

A deep study of word-formation paradigm and word-formation chain reveals a multilayered architecture of word formation, revealing both structural hierarchies and functional patterns in the context of Russian linguistics. This approach not only substantiates the dynamics of semantic shifts, but also contributes to the development of models for describing word-formation innovations in living language.

In works on linguistics devoted to the issues of word-formation family, the definition of this concept is associated with the unity of the root, orderliness and hierarchy of relations of the units included in it.

As M.Yu. Kazak writes, the nest “is characterized by stability, sustainability, on the one hand, and the capacity for dynamics, development, expansion, on the other hand, which allows us to place the word-formation nest in a series of open structures reflecting the universal principles of spontaneous self-organization of matter” [4, 5]. In her view, the word-

formation nest (WFN) is “one of the most complex integrated units of the word-formation subsystem; one of the highest forms of organization and generalization of derived vocabulary; a classificatory unit that most closely approaches natural classifications; a microsystem that concentratedly reflects all the main types of linguistic relations; and a bilateral unit of word formation possessing both formal and semantic structures” [4, 5].

A.N. Tikhonov defines the term "word-formation nest" as a set of words characterized by a common root and possessing semantic and material unity. It should be noted that this set, in his opinion, includes word-formation paradigms and chains [6]. He emphasizes the following: “The basis of the structure of nests in the literary language is the principle of hierarchy, the principle of the consistent subordination of some units to others” [7, 36].

V.V. Lopatin and I.S. Ulukhanov write: “A word-formation nest is a set of words with an identical root, ordered in accordance with the relationships of word-formation motivation” [5, 134].

Also worthy of attention is the definition of R.R. Atayeva, who distinguishes two plans of the nest: “A word-formation nest is a two-sided unit, having a plane of expression and a plane of content, that is, a formal and semantic side. A word-formation nest is a systemic organization, a highly organized linguistic unit, in which there are two axes – vertical (word-formation paradigms) and horizontal (word-formation chains)” [2, 36], where each derivative word has a specific place, “determined by the system and relations of derivation” (in other words, hierarchy) [3, 220].

Some word-formation families may have one or more source words. Therefore, family-formation families that have two or more source words are called multi-node families. R.R. Atayeva writes: “A nest is called polyvertex, the vertices of which are several non-derivative words. These can be stylistically neutral lexical variants such as валериана // валерьяна – (valerian), акант // аканф (acanthus), бриллиант // брильянт – (diamond), голавль // головль – (chub), бытие // бытиè (being), forming one nest or two or more sub-nests, acting in relation to each other as equivalent in structural terms” [2, 37]. In the “Word-Formation Dictionary of the Russian Language” by A.N. Tikhonov, the original words of such nests are on the same level.

She also develops a classification of poly-vertex nests depending on the nature of the variability of the vertex, highlighting the accentuated (тво'рор // твоp'o'r) – (cottage cheese), phonemic (бобp // бобèp) – (beaver), lexical and morphological (арабеска //

арабеск) – (arabesque), accentual-lexical-morphological (кАпсула // кАпсЮля (capsule), кpАтер // кpАТepа (crater)), accentual-phonemic (пергАмен // пергАМeнт // пергАМИн) – (parchment), and also depending on the composition and formal-semantic structure of the sub-nests, symmetrical (валерьяна // валериана) – (valerian), asymmetrical (алгоритм // алгоритм) – (algorithm), combined (георгин // георгина) – (dahlia) [2, 37].

Thus, by the term “polyvertex word-formation nest” we will define a nest whose vertices are not only variant, but also differential forms that differ stylistically or by other criteria, such as золото // злато – (gold) (устар.), кофе // кофий – (coffee)(прост.) etc. We described some differential forms in the article “Specificity of Reflection of Differential Forms in A.N. Tikhonov's «Word-Formation Dictionary of the Russian Language»” [2, 16-17].

In conclusion, we note that in linguistics, a polyvertex word-formation nest is understood as a nest whose vertices are not one, but two or more original words due to the fact that the vertices of the nest are represented by several modifications that contribute to a change in formal lexical variation.

Thus, the word-formation nest in the Russian language represents a complex, multi-level, and dynamic structure that reflects the internal regularities of derivational processes. The analysis of scholarly approaches to defining this concept demonstrates that researchers share a common view of its systemic nature, hierarchy, and formal and semantic unity, as well as the crucial role of the word-formation paradigm and the word-formation chain as key organizing components of the nest.

Special attention in the article is given to the polyvertex word-formation nest, which is characterized by the presence of two or more primary, non-derived words. These vertices may occur in the form of variant or differential forms and differ in accentological, phonetic, lexical, morphological, and stylistic features. This significantly increases the structural complexity of the polyvertex nest and highlights its open, evolving character.

The study of polyvertex word-formation nests contributes to a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of variability, the systemic relationships among derived units, and the dynamics of the development of the lexical system in modern Russian. The findings of this research can be applied to further modeling of word-formation processes and to the description of ongoing changes in the living language.

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