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Verbal syntax in Rromani: Diathesis

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Topics

- Morphosyntax in Rromani
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Morphosyntax in Rromani

- Basic word order in Rromani: (S)VO.
- The verb agrees with its subject in number, person and gender.
The gender concerns only the 3rd person singular in the past-tense of some verbs.

Daral. *(He/She) is afraid.*

Daràndilo. *(He) was afraid.*

Daràndili. *(She) was afraid.*

- The subject is often deleted.

Makhes i mez. *(You) paint the table.*

Tu makhes i mez. *You (that is not other persons) paint the table.*
YOU paint the table.

- ▶ Active: the action that the object undergoes.

Makhes i mez. (You) *paint the table.*

- MP: the action that the subject undergoes, either by his own fact or by other persons.

Makhlōs. *(You) do makeup yourself.* = reflexive

(You) are done makeup (by someone else). = passive

=> Ambiguous!?

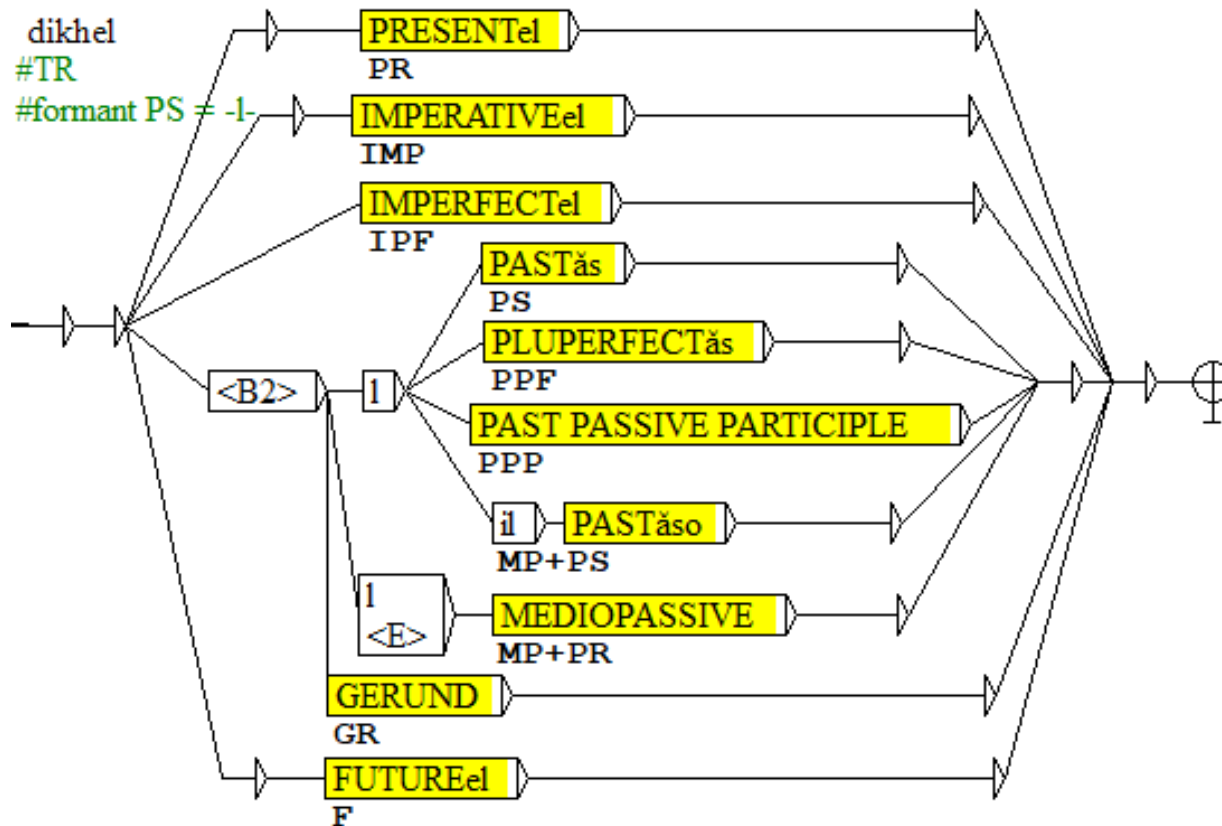


Medio-passive (MP)

- MP in Rromani consists of one of the two morphemes (-d- and -l-) of past participle passive (PPP) and the ending, which agrees with its subject in number, person and gender. The gender concerns only the 3rd person singular in the past-tense.

IND+PRS	PPP	MP+PRS
makhel <i>to paint</i>	makhlo	makhľl
khosel <i>to wipe</i>	khoslo	khosľl
bičhalel <i>to send</i>	bičhaldo	bičhalďl
kerel <i>to do, to make</i>	kerdo	kerďl

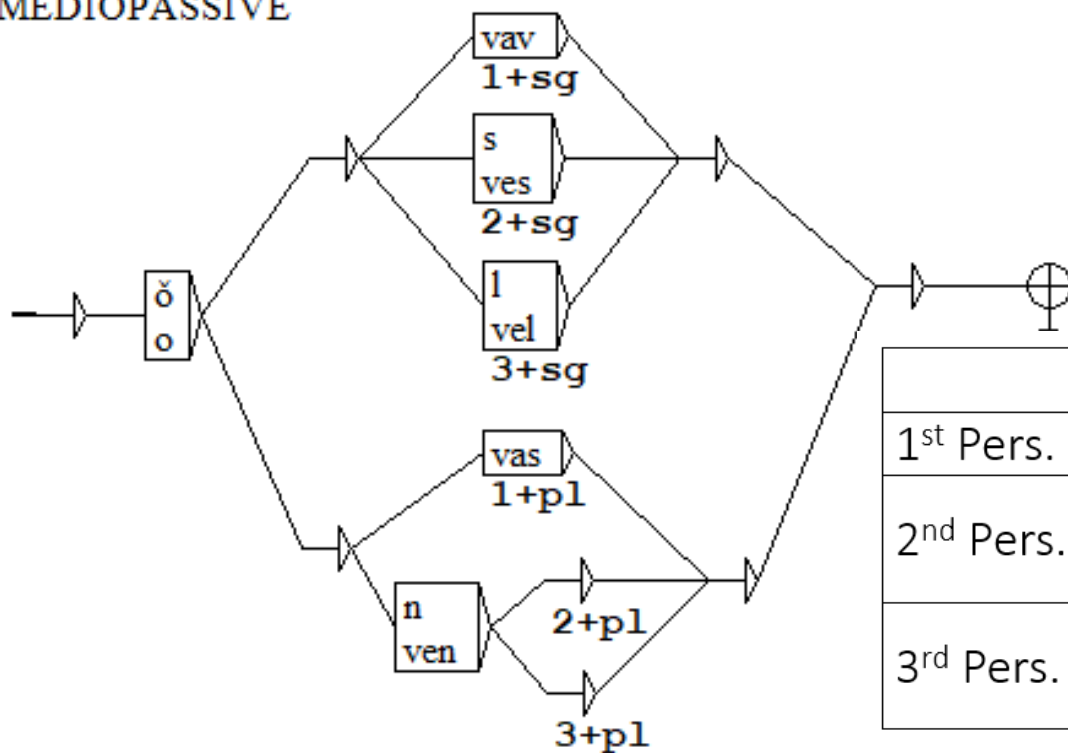
Medio-passive (MP)



NooJ inflectional grammar for the E-class verbs with -l-

Medio-passive (MP)

MEDIOPASSIVE



	SG	PL
1 st Pers.	makhlö vav	makhlö vas
2 nd Pers.	makhlö ves makhlö s	makhlö ven makhlö n
3 rd Pers.	makhlö vel makhlö l	makhlö ven makhlö n

NooJ inflectional grammar for the medio-passive



Reflexive or non-reflexive?

- Two analytical forms of the passive: reflexive and non-reflexive.
- reflexive: V+active - patient(=agent)+oblique.

Makh-es **tu-t.**

to_do_makeup-PRS.2SG you.SG-OBL

(You) do makeup yourself.

- Non-reflexive: copula - V+PPP - agent+oblique+ablative.

Sin-an **makh-l-i** **tir-e** **sas-a-θar.**

be-PRS.2SG to_do_makeup-PPP-F.SG.DRT your-F.SG.OBL mother_in_law-F.SG.OBL-ABL

(You 'female') are done makeup by your mother-in-law.

=>No risk of confusing about the agent.



Reflexive or non-reflexive?

- Two forms of personal pronoun of the 3rd person in the oblique: reflexive and non-reflexive.

➤ reflexive: **pes** *himself/herself*, **pen** *themselves*.

Makhel pes. *(He/She) does makeup himself/herself.*

➤ Non-reflexive: **les** *him/her*, **len** *them*.

Makhel la. *(He/She) does makeup someone else (female).*

=> No risk of confusing about the patient.



Transitivity in Rromani

- Two types of transitivity in Rromani: transitive and intransitive.
- Transitive: **Phabares o kašt.** *(You) burn the wood.*
- Intransitive: **O kašt phablől.** *The wood burns.*
- Verbs in Rromani cannot be both transitive and intransitive.
- In fact, **phablől** *smth burns* is the MP form of **phabarel** *to burn smth*.



Causative in Rromani

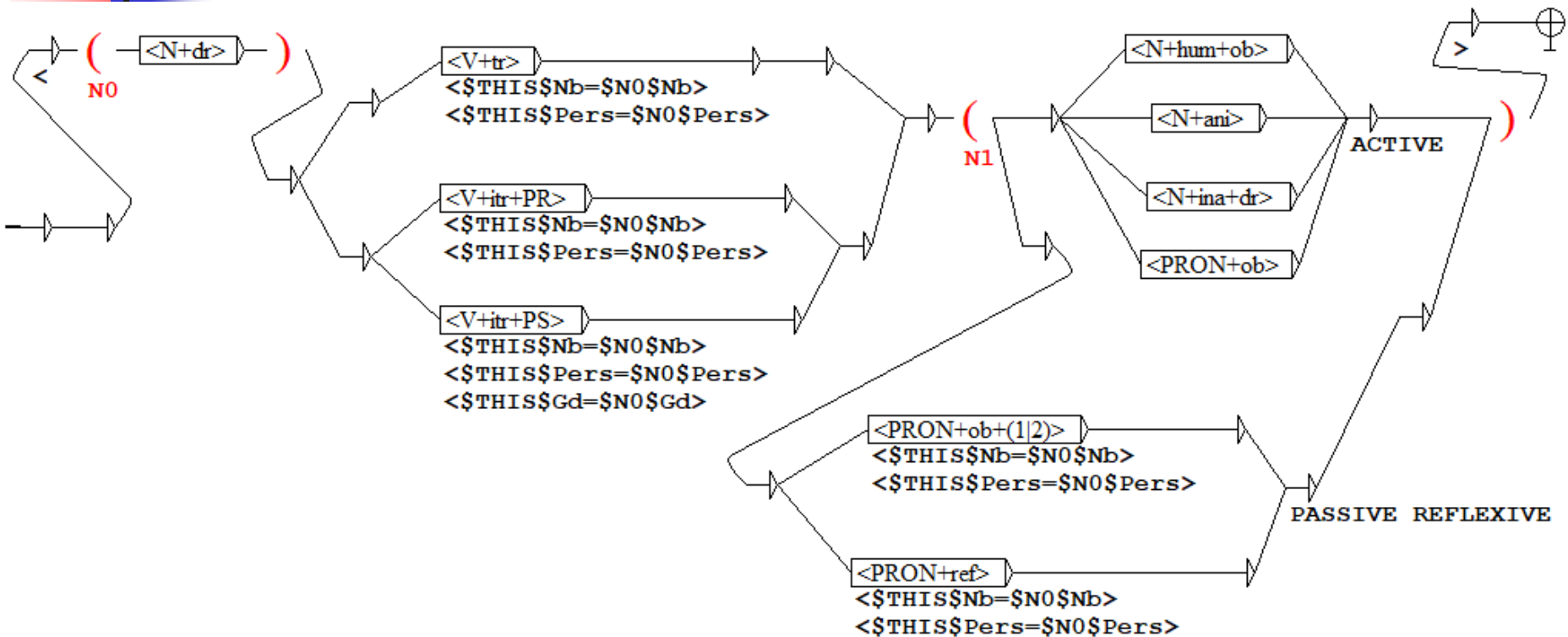
- Causative in Rromani means: to make smb/smith do smth or to become such.
- Causative affixes: **-av-**, **-ăr-** and **-ăkă-**.
- A-class verb + **-av-** : **daral** *to be afraid* > **daravel** *to scare*
- E-class verb + **-ăr-** : **makhel** *to paint* > **makhărel** *to let paint*
- Adjectival stem + **-ăr-/ -ăkă-** : **baro** *big* > **barărel**/**barăkărel** *to bring up*
- MP + **-ăr-** : **siklöl** *to learn* > **siklărel** *to teach* (lit. *to make learn*)

Lexical resource

- *Morri angluni rromane čhibăqi evroputni lavustik* "My first European dictionary of Rromani language" (Courthiade, M. et al., 2009) includes the four main dialects of Rromani and translation in 10 languages (Croatian, English, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Romanian, Slovak, Spanish, Ukrainian).
- The lexical part of the NooJ module for Rromani is mainly based on this dictionary.



Nool syntax for diathesis



- Active:

Makhel e boră.	(He/She) does makeup the bride.
Makhel i mez.	(He/She) paints the table.
Makhel la.	(He/She) paints/does makeup her/it (bride or table?)
- Passive reflexive:

Makhes tut.	(You) do makeup yourself.
Makhel pes.	(He/She) does makeup himself/herself.



Conclusion and perspective

- This time, I have programed some grammars for verbal syntax especially about diathesis. These are just a prototype. It would be necessary to see other syntactic phenomena to improve the syntax of the Rromani module.
- Previously, I presented the grammars for noun phrases. The coherence and the compatibility between all syntactic grammars should be examined.
- In the near future, I would like to finish the NooJ dictionary at first, then improve NooJ syntax so that the module Rromani is more efficient.



References

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Te oven saste ! *Hvala! Thank you!*

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