

Frederik KORTLANDT

Leiden University

BALTIC Ē-STEMS REVISITED

Abstract. Balto-Slavic ē-stems represent Proto-Indo-European root nouns, in particular **dheH_I-*, and *H_I-*stems, especially proterodynamic *iH_I-*stems denoting deverbal abstracts, as well as Proto-Balto-Slavic ē-extensions of root nouns and hysterodynamic *iH₂-*stems. In Latin we similarly find PIE root nouns and *H_I-*stems, especially proterodynamic *iH_I-*stems denoting deverbal abstracts, and hysterodynamic *iH₂-*stems denoting denominal abstracts and collectives.

Keywords: Balto-Slavic; Indo-European; historical morphology; ē-stems.

Elsewhere I have argued for the following types of Baltic ē-stem (Kortlandt 1997, 162):

- (1) hysterodynamic *eH_I-*stems and original root nouns, e.g. Lith. *girė* ‘woods’, *žvaigždė* ‘star’, Prussian *umnode* ‘bakehouse’;
- (2) hysterodynamic *uH_I-*stems and original root nouns, e.g. Lith. *šlovė* ‘glory’, *vestuvės* ‘wedding’,¹
- (3) hysterodynamic *iH_I-*stems, e.g. Lith. *neptė* ‘niece’;
- (4) proterodynamic *iH_I-*stems, e.g. Lith. *piovė* ‘cutting’, Prussian *giwei* ‘life’;
- (5) hysterodynamic *iH₂-*stems, e.g. Lith. *vilkė* ‘she-wolf’, Prussian *mealde* ‘lightning’.

Peter Schrijver has identified the following types of ē-stem in Latin (1991, 390):

- (1) hysterodynamic *eH_I-*stems and original root nouns, e.g. *vātēs* ‘prophet’, *spēs* ‘hope’;
- (2) hysterodynamic *iH_I-*stem: *neptis* ‘granddaughter’;
- (3) proterodynamic *iH_I-*stems, e.g. *aciēs* ‘sharp edge’.

¹ Lith. *gérvė*, Prussian *gerwe* ‘crane’ is not a proterodynamic *uH_I-*stem (thus *l.c.*) but a hysterodynamic *uH₂-*stem (cf. Kortlandt 2018).

Schrijver also identified Old Irish *fáith* ‘prophet’ and *méit* ‘quantity’ as original *eH₁*-stems (1991, 388) and Latin *socrus* ‘mother-in-law’ as an original *uH₁*-stem (1991, 365). He established that *iH₂*-stems denote feminines, denominational abstracts and collectives whereas proterodynamic *iH₁*-stems denote deverbal abstracts (cf. Kortlandt 2015b, 73–75 on the Slavic correspondences).

Holger Pedersen has argued that Lith. *žvākė* ‘candle’, *meñtė* ‘paddle’, *girė* ‘woods’ are original *ē*-stems that can be identified with Latin *facēs* ‘torch’ and Vedic *mánthās* ‘churning stick’ and *girīś* ‘mountain’ (1926, 60–67). In a recent article (2017), Piwowarczyk rejects this analysis without addressing Pedersen’s arguments, in particular the existence of the derivatives Lith. *girénas* ‘forester’ and Latin *facētus* ‘clever’. The aspiration in Vedic *mánthās* and *pánthās* with *th* < **tH₁* is also found in the primary 2nd pl. ending *-tha* < **-tH₁e* corresponding to *-te* in the other Indo-European languages, where a generalization of the secondary ending **-te* is improbable.²

Piwowarczyk subscribes to the widespread view that Lith. *-ė* developed from a contraction of **-i(j)ā*, which cannot be correct for a number of reasons. First, there is no evidence for such a change. Second, the accent was retracted from a prevocalic **i*, which was lost, e.g. in Lith. *vandēnis* ‘water-’ < **-i(j)os*, Vedic *udanīyas*. Third, it is unclear why the nom. sg. form in *-ė* should be the only one in the paradigm where the contraction took place. Fourth, Slavic *zemlja* (c) ‘earth’ belongs to accent paradigm (b) in Old Russian, Kajkavian and Old Slovene, which is incompatible with an original *jā*-stem (cf. Kortlandt 2011, 64). It must therefore be identified with Lith. *žēmė* (2) and Prussian *sem̄ē* as an original *ē*-stem. Note that *ē*-stems became productive in Balto-Slavic by the creation of a nom. sg. form in **-ē* on the basis of the oblique cases of consonant stems, e.g. Lith. *žēmė*, *ūpē*, *sáulē*, *gile*, *mūsē*, *pelē*, *gérvē*, *šlovē*, OPr. *sem̄ē*, *ape*, *saule*, *gile*, *muso*, *peles*, *gerwe*. This also happened in the case of the hysterodynamic *iH₂*-stems, e.g. Lith. *vilkē*. The circumflex tone of the nom. sg. ending *-ė* resulted from the loss of a laryngeal after the lengthened grade vowel that originated in Proto-Indo-European monosyllables, e.g. **d^hēs* < **d^hēH₁s* < **d^heH₁s*, Lith. *dės* ‘will put’

² Dr Alexander Lubotsky reminds me that Vedic *pánthās* ‘path’ has no *ā*-stem cognates in any Indo-European language, which renders a reconstruction with **H₂* instead of **H₁* highly unlikely. The same holds for *sphāya-* ‘fatten’, cf. Latin *spēs*, Lith. *spéti*, OCS *spēti*.

(cf. Wackernagel 1896, 66–68; Kortlandt 1985; 2015a; 2015c; 2017a).

Deverbal ē-stems are frequent in Latin, e.g. *caedēs*, *sēdēs*, *clādēs*, *vātēs*, *compāgēs*, *ambāgēs*, *prōlēs*, *subōlēs*, *struēs*, *luēs*.³ Both sigmatic and asigmatic nominatives are found in Vedic compounds of root nouns, e.g. *śraddhā* ‘trust’ < *-d^hē, *śraddhás* ‘trustful’, Avestan *mazdā* < *-dās, cf. Old English *wōð* ‘song’ and *wōd* ‘mad’ corresponding to Welsh *gwawd* ‘song’ and Irish *fáith* ‘prophet’ (= Latin *vātēs*), reflecting a proterodynamic and a hysterodynamic flexion of the same word. Baltic compounds with *-d^hē are frequent, e.g. Lith. *arklidē*, *avīdē*, *alūdē*, *pelūdē*, also *žvaigždē* ‘star’, OCS *zvězda*, OPr. *umnode* ‘bakehouse’, with the circumflex tone of a monosyllable.

In his brilliant studies of the Elbing Vocabulary, Jules Levin (1973; 1974) has shown that the nom. sg. ending of the proterodynamic and hysterodynamic *iH*-stems is -y/i /ī/ and -e /ē/, respectively, e.g. *sansy* ‘goose’ versus *mealde* ‘lightning’, Lith. *patì* < *-i? vs. *vìlkè* < *-i?ē, OCS *bogynji* vs. *ml̥nii*. At the end of the East Baltic period, the accent was retracted in the hysterodynamic paradigm, yielding metatony in the preceding syllable and loss of the prevocalic *i. The reflexes *-ē < *-iē in East Baltic and -ii < *-iē in Slavic presuppose a Balto-Slavic nom. sg. form in *-i?ē, with full grade *-ē from the simple ē-stems (cf. Pedersen 1926, 58; Schrijver 1991, 387) and raising of the final *-ē to *-ī in Early Slavic, as in OCS *mati*, Lith. *mótē*. When the hysterodynamic paradigm adopted the circumflex nom. sg. ending of the earlier ē-stems, it still had gen. sg. *-i?es and acc. sg. *-ei?m, preserved in OPr. *warein* (2×) ‘power’, with the same vocalism as in OCS acc. sg. *svekrovъ* ‘mother-in-law’ < *-euHm (cf. Rozwadowski 1914, 14–18; Kortlandt 1997, 160–162). This is the origin of the hysterodynamic feminine adjectives in -ē, e.g. Lith. *đidelē*, *gerèsnē*, *vidurìnē*, *auksìnē*, *mažùtē*, as opposed to the proterodynamic feminine paradigm of the u-stems, e.g. *lýgi*, *brangi*, *platì*. Proterodynamic feminines were originally derived from athematic stems, e.g. OPr. *sansy*, Lith. *patì*, and hysterodynamic feminines from thematic stems, e.g. *vìlkè* from *vilkas* (cf. Fellner 2014, 70f.; Kortlandt 2017b). In Latin, the acc. sg. ending *-eiHm of the hysterodynamic *iH*₂-stems yielded *-ēm < *-eiem (cf. *trēs* < *treies) because the final nasal became syllabic after the double consonant, as in the 1st sg. thematic optative ending Vedic -eyam,

³ The derivation of Latin *caedēs* ‘killing’, *sēdēs* ‘seat’ etc. from pluralia tantum (Piwowarczyk 2017, 253) is highly unlikely.

Greek *-οια*, Gothic *-au* < **-oiHm*. This gave rise to the Latin *iē/iā*-flexion of *māteriēs*, gen. dat. *māteriae*.

I conclude that Balto-Slavic *ē*-stems represent Proto-Indo-European root nouns, in particular **d^heH₁-*, and *H₁*-stems, especially proterodynamic *iH₁*-stems denoting deverbal abstracts, as well as Proto-Balto-Slavic *ē*-extensions of root nouns and hysterodynamic *iH₂*-stems. In Slavic, *ē*-stems are mostly continued as *ā*-stems, e.g. OCS *zvězda* ‘star’, *gora* ‘mountain’. In Latin we similarly find PIE root nouns and *H₁*-stems, especially proterodynamic *iH₁*-stems denoting deverbal abstracts, and hysterodynamic *iH₂*-stems denoting denominal abstracts and collectives. Piwowarczyk’s idea that *H₁*-stems and *H₂*-stems would be functionally equivalent (2017, 253, 259) is simply mistaken. For early Proto-Indo-European we can reconstruct **-H₂* for collectives, **-iH₂* for possessives (cf. Kortlandt 2017b), and **-H₁* for verbal nouns that were incorporated in the flexional system as *ē*-preterits, e.g. Lith. *vēdē* ‘led’ (cf. Kortlandt 2007, 84).

DAR KARTĄ APIE BALTU *ē* KAMIENUS

Santrauka

Baltų-slavų *ē* kamienai reprezentuoja ide. šakninius daiktavardžius, visų pirma **d^heH₁-*, ir *H₁* kamienus, ypač proterodinaminius *iH₁* kamienus, žyminčius veiksmažodinius abstraktus, taip pat baltų-slavų *ē* plėtinis iš šakninių daiktavardžių ir histerodinaminijų *iH₂* kamienų. Lotynų kalboje panašiai randami ide. šakniniai daiktavardžiai ir *H₁* kamienai, ypač proterodinaminiai *iH₁* kamienai, žymintys veiksmažodinius abstraktus, taip pat histerodinaminiai *iH₂* kamienai, žymintys vardažodinius abstraktus ir kolektyvus.

REFERENCES

- Fellner, Hannes A. 2014, Das Femininum der thematischen Adjektiva im Tocharischen, in Norbert Oettinger, Thomas Steer (eds.), *Das Nomen im Indogermanischen*, Wiesbaden: Reichert, 65–77.
- Kortlandt, Frederik 1985, Long vowels in Balto-Slavic, *Baltistica* 21(2), 112–124.
- Kortlandt, Frederik 1997, Baltic *ē*- and *ī/jā*-stems, *Baltistica* 32(2), 157–163.
- Kortlandt, Frederik 2007, *Italo-Celtic Origins and Prehistoric Development of the Irish Language* (= *Leiden Studies in Indo-European* 14), Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2011, *Selected Writings on Slavic and General Linguistics* (= *Studies in Slavic and General Linguistics* 39), Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2015a, Sigmatic and asigmatic long vowel preterit forms, *Journal of Indo-European Studies* 43, 236–242.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2015b, Proto-Slavic *j, Van Wijk's law, and ē-stems, *Rasprave Instituta za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovje* 41(1), 65–76.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2015c, Tocharian ē-grade verb forms, *Tocharian and Indo-European Studies* 16, 51–59.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2017a, What is Stang's law?, *Baltistica* 52(1), 73–80.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2017b, On the origin of grammatical gender, *Tocharian and Indo-European Studies* 18, 95–104.

Kortlandt, Frederik 2018, The Balto-Slavic word for 'crane' and its cognates, *Baltistica* 53(1), 113–115.

Levin, Jules Fred 1973, -jā-stems and -ē-stems in the Elbing Vocabulary, in Arvids Ziedonis, Jaan Puhvel, Rimvydas Šilbajoris, Mardi Valgemaе (eds.), *Baltic Literature and Linguistics*, Columbus: Ohio State University, 189–196.

Levin, Jules Fred 1974, *The Slavic Element in the Old Prussian Elbing Vocabulary*, Berkeley: University of California Press.

Pedersen, Holger 1926, *La cinquième déclinaison latine*, København: Høst & Søn.

Piwowarczyk, Dariusz R. 2017, The Latin fifth declension and the Baltic ē-stems, *Baltistica* 52(2), 247–263.

Rozwadowski, Jan 1914, Przyczynki do historycznej fonetyki języków słowiańskich, *Rocznik Sławistyczny* 7, 9–21.

Schrijver, Peter 1991, *The Reflexes of the Proto-Indo-European Laryngeals in Latin* (= *Leiden Studies in Indo-European* 2), Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Wackernagel, Jakob 1896, *Altindische Grammatik* 1: *Lautlehre*, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.

Frederik KORTLANDT

Leiden University

Cobetstraat 24

NL-2313 KC Leiden

The Netherlands

[f.kortlandt@hum.leidenuniv.nl]