

Paradigm Uniformity in Czech Prefix Vocalization

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1 Introduction

Consonant-final prefixes in Czech sometimes require a vowel (in Czech, always [ɛ]) after them when attaching to a root (what I call *prefix vocalization*). We can see from (1) that this is not purely phonological:

- | | | | | |
|-----|----|--------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| (1) | a. | <i>CCVC root, unvocalized prefix</i> | b. | <i>CC root, vocalized prefix</i> |
| | | pod-brad-ɛk | | podɛ-br-a-l |
| | | under-chin-DIM | | under-take-THEM-PAST |
| | | “double chin” | | “scooped (masc. sg.)” |

My focus: prefix vocalization in short (specifically, CC and CCV) verb roots like (1b). I will:

- Show that prefix vocalization occurs in verbs with *multiple consonants* and *no vowels* in the surface form, which I analyze using a markedness constraint on the shape of the root
- Argue that prefix vocalization overapplies due to *paradigm uniformity*, analyzing this using the framework of Optimal Paradigms (McCarthy, 2005)
- Compare my analysis to previous accounts like Ziková (2016) and Rubach (1993)—who discusses very similar facts in Slovak—and show that using the paradigm as a unit of structure provides a better fit to the data than these accounts do (cf. Bobaljik, 2008)

2 Basic distribution

2.1 CC and CCV roots

Ziková (2016): prefix vocalization occurs before roots comprising multiple consonants and no vowels, regardless of sonority.

All C-final prefixes participate—no difference in behavior between lexical and superlexical prefixes (Svenonius, 2004).

- (2) *Prefixes vocalize before CC(C) roots with thematic vowels*¹
- a. rozε-rv-a-l “tear up”
 - b. rozε-stl-a-l “prepare (a bed)”
 - c. rozε-tř-ε-l “spread”

Contrast with: CCV roots without thematic vowels, like [kri]:

- | | |
|---|---|
| (3) <i>CC roots: no vowel in non-past, vocalized prefix</i> | <i>CCV roots: vowel in non-past, unvocalized prefix</i> |
| a. tř-ε-l “rub (past)” | d. kri-∅-l “cover (past)” |
| b. tř-∅-ε “rub (non-past)” ² | e. krij-∅-ε “cover (non-past)” |
| c. sε-tř-ε-l “rub away (past)” | f. s-kri-∅-l “hide (past)” |

Analysis: prefix vocalization is epenthesis (like Rysling (2016) and Czaykowska Higgins (1988) argue for Polish) driven by a markedness constraint on the shape of the root:

- (4) **CCROOTVOWEL**: If a verb root follows a consonant and contains at least two consonants, it must also contain a [+syllabic] segment.

CONTIGUITY-IO_{root} (Kenstowicz, 1994) ensures that the vowel is epenthesized before the root, not within it:

- (5) **CONTIGUITY-IO_{root}**: Adjacent root input segments must correspond to adjacent output segments.

CCROOTVOWEL must outrank **DEP-IO-V**, which penalizes vowel epenthesis.

Also: high-ranking **MAX-IO-C**, which penalizes consonant deletion. (I omit this constraint and candidates violating it from my tableaux.)

These constraints yield prefix vocalization in [tř-ε-l] (CC root with thematic vowel) but not in [kri-l] (CCV root with no thematic vowel):

¹Although the citation form of a Czech verb is the infinitive (in these cases, [rozεrvat], [rozεstlat], and [rozεtřit]), here and throughout, I present the masculine singular past form, because the infinitive displays length alternations that would be confusing here. Unless otherwise noted, examples are from the SYN2015 corpus of the Czech National Corpus (Křen et al., 2016).

²Unless otherwise noted, non-past forms are third person singular. These forms have a present meaning for imperfective verbs and a future meaning for perfective verbs. In these cases, unprefixed verbs are imperfective and prefixed verbs are perfective. I assume that the [ε] in the non-past forms is part of the inflection, not the theme vowel.

(6) *Prefix vocalization is triggered in CC roots*

$s\text{-}[\text{t}_{\text{r}}^{\text{a}}]_{\text{root}}\text{-}\epsilon\text{-l}$	CCROOT VOWEL	CONTIGUITY-IO _{root}	DEP-IO-V
a. $s[\text{t}_{\text{r}}^{\text{a}}]_{\text{root}}\epsilon\text{l}$	*!		
b. $\text{r}\text{e}\text{ }s\epsilon[\text{t}_{\text{r}}^{\text{a}}]_{\text{root}}\epsilon\text{l}$			*
c. $s[\text{t}\epsilon\text{r}^{\text{a}}]_{\text{root}}\epsilon\text{l}$		*!	*

(7) *Prefix vocalization is not triggered in CCV roots*

$s\text{-}[\text{kri}]_{\text{root}}\text{-}\emptyset\text{-l}$	CCROOT VOWEL	CONTIGUITY-IO _{root}	DEP-IO-V
a. $\text{r}\text{e}\text{ }s[\text{kri}]_{\text{root}}\text{l}$			
b. $s\epsilon[\text{kri}]_{\text{root}}\text{l}$			*!

2.2 CCV roots with thematic vowels

Caha and Scheer (2008) compare $[\text{f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{l}]$ and $[\text{r}\text{v}\text{al}]$:

- the vowel of $[\text{f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{l}]$ is long in the past, while in $[\text{r}\text{v}\text{al}]$ it is short
- $[\text{f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{l}]$ has a [j] in the non-past, $[\text{r}\text{v}\text{al}]$ does not

(8)	<i>Standard CC pattern</i>	<i>New pattern</i>
	<i>short vowel in past, no vowel in non-past</i>	<i>long vowel in past, vowel in non-past</i>
	a. $\text{rv}\text{-a}\text{-l}$ “tear (past)”	c. $\text{f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{-a}:\text{-l}$ “warm (past)”
	b. $\text{rv}\text{-}\emptyset\text{-}\epsilon$ “tear (non-past)”	d. $\text{f}\text{r}\text{e}:\text{-}\emptyset\text{-}\epsilon$ “warm (non-past)”

My conclusion: The root is $/\text{f}\text{r}\text{e}/$

- non-past: like $[\text{kri}:\text{j}\text{-}\epsilon]$ (3e)
- past: thematic vowel [a], which swallows up root vowel and lengthens

Prefixes vocalize before $[\text{f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{l}]$:

(9)	<i>CC root + thematic vowel</i>	<i>CCV root + thematic vowel</i>
	<i>vocalized prefix</i>	<i>vocalized prefix</i>
	a. $\text{ro}:\text{z}\epsilon\text{-rv}\text{-a}\text{-l}$ “tear up (past)”	b. $\text{ro}:\text{z}\epsilon\text{-f}\text{r}\text{a}:\text{-a}:\text{-l}$ “start to warm up (past)”

Recall definition of CCROOTVOWEL, repeated from (4):

- (10) CCROOTVOWEL: If a verb root follows a consonant and contains at least two consonants, it must also contain a [+syllabic] segment.

Applies to surface *output forms* (since it’s a markedness constraint).

If the root vowel gets deleted ($/roz-f̥r̥ɛ-a-l/ \rightarrow [rozɛ-f̥r̥-a:l]$), CCROOTVOWEL is violated and must be repaired.

Analysis for unprefixd $/f̥r̥ɛ-a-l/ [f̥r̥-a:l]$. We need:

- The fix for hiatus is vowel deletion rather than consonant epenthesis or metathesis
- The root vowel is deleted rather than the thematic vowel
- The thematic vowel lengthens

I handle these with the following constraints, respectively:

- DEP-IO-C and LINEARITY-IO (McCarthy and Prince, 1995), which penalize consonant epenthesis and metathesis, respectively, outranking MAX-IO-V, which penalizes vowel deletion (I omit LINEARITY-IO and candidates that violate it from my tableaux)
- MAX-IO-MORPH (Abu-Mansour, 2011), which requires that every morpheme with a segment in the input have a segment in the output (see also Kurisu, 2001)
- MAX-IO- μ , which penalizes the deletion of a mora, outranking IDENT-IO(length), which penalizes changes in segment length

This gives us:

(11) *CCV root + theme vowel: root vowel deletes, theme vowel lengthens*

$[f̥r̥ɛ]_{root-a-l}$	*VV	DEP-IO-C	MAX-IO-MORPH	MAX-IO- μ	MAX-IO-V	ID-IO (length)
a. $[f̥r̥ɛ]_{root}al$	*!					
b. $[f̥r̥ɛ]_{root}jal$		*!				
c. $[f̥r̥ɛ]_{root}l$			*!	*!	*	
d. $[f̥r̥]_{root}al$				*!	*	
e. $[f̥ri:]_{root}l^3$			*!		*	*
f. $[f̥r̥]_{root}a:l$					*	*

To get prefix vocalization in $[rozɛ-f̥r̥-a:l]$:

- DEP-IO-C must outrank DEP-IO-V, otherwise we would instead insert a glide to avoid vocalizing the prefix.
- CCROOTVOWEL is still undominated and must be repaired

(In this tableau I omit MAX-IO-MORPH, MAX-IO- μ , and CONTIGUITY-IO_{root}, as well as candidates that violate them.)

³In Czech, $[\varepsilon]$ often lengthens to $[i:]$.

(12) *Prefix + CCV root + theme vowel: root vowel deletes, prefix vocalizes*

roz-[fir̥ɛ] _{root} -a-l	CCROOT VOWEL	*VV	DEP- IO-C	MAX- IO-V	ID-IO (length)	DEP- IO-V
a. roz[fir̥ɛ] _{root} al		*!				
b. roz[fir̥ɛ] _{root} jal			*!			
c. roz[fir̥ɛ] _{root} a:l	*!			*	*	
d. roz rozɛ[fir̥ɛ] _{root} a:l				*	*	*

For the analysis of glide insertion in the present tense (/fir̥ɛ-ɛ/ → [fir̥ɛjɛ]), see Appendix A.

To summarize:

(13) Prefix vocalization occurs in roots with:

- a. *multiple consonants* and
- b. *no vowels* in the *surface form*.

Prefix vocalization almost always applies with a CC(C) root allomorph—see Appendix B.

3 Overapplication

3.1 Distribution

Ziková (2016) and others (e.g. Scheer, 2004; Rubach, 1993): prefix vocalization *overapplies* to some forms that do not satisfy the conditions in (13).

Root allomorphy: If a verb has

- a CC allomorph in some forms of a paradigm, and
- a CVC allomorph in others,

prefix vocalization applies across the board:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (14) <i>CC root in past, CVC root in non-past
 prefix vocalizes throughout</i> | <i>CVC root in past, CC root in non-past
 prefix vocalizes throughout</i> |
| a. ode-br -a -l “take away (past)” | c. ode-tʃɛt-Ø-l “subtract (past)” |
| b. ode-bɛr-Ø-ɛ “take away (non-past)” | d. ode-tʃt -Ø-ɛ “subtract (non-past)” |

What is the domain of overapplication? Ziková (2016):

- If perfective stems with CC root allomorphs (like [-br-a-l]) show prefix vocalization,
- so do the *secondary imperfective* forms (like [-bi:r-a-l] below).

Her examples:

- (15) *Some verbs: CC root allomorph in perfective, CVC root allomorph in imperfective, prefix vocalizes in perfective and imperfective*
- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| “take away“ | “grind up“ | “sign“ | |
| a. oðɛ-br -a -l | d. sɛ-ml -ɛ -l | g. podɛ-ps -a -l | perfective past |
| b. oðɛ-bɛr-Ø-ɛ | e. sɛ-mɛl-Ø-ɛ | h. podɛ-pi:f -Ø -ɛ | perfective non-past |
| c. oðɛ-bi:r -a -l | f. sɛ-mi:l -a -l | i. podɛ-pis -ova ⁴ -l | imperfective past |
- (Ziková, 2016: 178)

However, other verbs do not vocalize in the imperfective:

- (16) *Other verbs: CC root allomorph in perfective, CVC root allomorph in imperfective, prefix vocalizes in perfective only*
- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| “gather“ | “read aloud“ | “rub in“ | |
| a. sɛ-br -a -l | d. pɪ̃ɛdɛ-tʃɛt-Ø-l | g. vɛ-tɪ̃ -ɛ -l | perfective past |
| b. sɛ-bɛr-Ø-ɛ | e. pɪ̃ɛdɛ-tʃt -Ø-ɛ | h. vɛ-tɪ̃ -Ø-ɛ | perfective non-past |
| c. z -bi:r -a -l | f. pɪ̃ɛ(t)-tʃi:t -a -l | i. f -ti:r -a -l | imperfective past |

Are the examples in (16) just exceptions?

- Appendix B: overapplication within the perfective ([oðɛ-br-a-l] → [oðɛ-bɛr-ɛ]) is categorical with scattered exceptions
- Appendix C: overapplication from the perfective to the imperfective ([oðɛ-br-a-l] → [oðɛ-bi:r-a-l]) is much more variable

We should not dismiss cases like (16) as exceptions! Instead:

Focus on [oðɛ-bɛr-ɛ] cases, leaving the door open for a future analysis of [oðɛ-bi:r-a-l] and [z-bi:r-a-l] cases.

The relevant domain is the *paradigm*.

3.2 The Czech verbal paradigm

How should we define the paradigm? I adopt the traditional view, examples for perfective [sɛ-br-a-l] and imperfective [z-bi:r-a-l] from the Czech Internet Language Handbook (ÚJČ AV ČR, 2019):⁵

⁴The thematic element [ova] may be morphologically complex, but this does not affect my analysis. What is relevant is that it is not part of the root.

⁵I have omitted the mostly obsolete forms known as transgressives.

(17) *Perfective paradigm: sebrat*
Root allomorphs: br, ber
Vocalized prefixes throughout

	singular	plural
1st person	seberu	sebereme
2nd person	seberěj	seberete
3rd person	sebere	seberou
imperative	seber	seberte
active participle	sebral	
passive participle	sebra:n	
verbal noun	sebra:ɲi:	

(18) *Imperfective paradigm: zbirat*
Root allomorphs: bir
Unvocalized prefixes throughout

	singular	plural
1st person	zbi:ra:m	zbi:ra:me
2nd person	zbi:ra:f	zbi:ra:te
3rd person	zbi:ra:	zbi:ra:ji:
imperative	zbi:rěj	zbi:rějte
active participle	zbi:ral	
passive participle	zbi:ra:n	
verbal noun	zbi:ra:ɲi:	

Why choose this?

- Corresponds with traditional Czech grammarians' conception
- Semantically: more or less corresponds to all forms of a "lexical item", setting aside aspect
- Morphologically: Only a smallish class of verbs (the focus of this talk!) exhibit root allomorphy between the past and non-past stems, whereas the imperfective generally has an additional suffix, often with change in root (Nübler et al., 2017)

And of course, as argued above, verbs that require prefix vocalization in the perfective do not necessarily exhibit it in the imperfective.

3.3 The representation of root allomorphy

Many (e.g. Rubach, 1993; Scheer, 2004; Ziková, 2016) assume root allomorphs like [br], [ber], and [bi:r] have a unified underlying representation with an unlinked vowel between the two consonants:

(19) *One account of CC/CVC root allomorphy: unlinked vowels*

C	V	C
b	ε	r

Like Gouskova (2012) and Rysling (2016), I do not adopt the assumption of abstract/unlinked vowels.

Instead: I assume root allomorphs like [br], [ber], and [bi:r] are listed in the lexicon as such:

- (20) *Naïve lexical entry for $\sqrt{\text{TAKE}}$*
- $\sqrt{\text{TAKE}} \leftrightarrow \text{bi:r} / \text{prefix } __ \text{ imperfective}$
 - $\sqrt{\text{TAKE}} \leftrightarrow \text{ber} / __ \{ \text{imperative, non-past} \}$
 - $\sqrt{\text{TAKE}} \leftrightarrow \text{br} / __ \text{ elsewhere}$

⁵This is the form I have been labelling as past; the past tense and conditional are formed with periphrastic constructions using the active participle, agreeing with the subject in number and gender, and an auxiliary inflected for person and number.

Note: I am *not* assuming that *all* alternating vowels in Czech are listed like this, just these verbal root allomorphs.

3.4 Optimal Paradigms

Account for overapplication: Optimal Paradigms constraints (McCarthy, 2005):

- The entire paradigm (as defined in Section 3.2) is derived as a unit
- Each member of the paradigm is in output–output correspondence with every other.
- This is true *even when members of the paradigm have different root allomorphs*—the fundamental unit of analysis is the entire paradigm, not any subsection of it

Crucial constraint: DEP-OP-V, which enforces correspondence between vowels in all members of a paradigm:

- (21) DEP-OP-V: For members of a paradigm P_1, P_2 , any vowel that appears in P_2 must have a corresponding vowel in P_1 .

We don't want root allomorphs to level—/br/ should stay [br] and /bɛr/ should stay [bɛr]:

- MAX-IO-V (penalizing vowel deletion) prevents /bɛr/ → [br]
- CONTIGUITY-IO_{root} (penalizing epenthesis within the root) prevents /br/ → [bɛr]

Both constraints must outrank DEP-OP-V, else vowels would have to correspond throughout.

Overapplication: DEP-OP-V outranks DEP-IO-V—better for members of a paradigm to have corresponding vowels, even at the cost of epenthesis.

In (22) we see prefix vocalization triggered in [br] forms overapplying to [bɛr] forms.

Here I only count violations of DEP-OP-V in prefix and root, assuming there are additional constraints preventing theme vowels and inflectional endings (grayed out) from collapsing together:

- (22) *Prefix vocalization triggered in CC root allomorphs, then overapplies across paradigm to CVC root allomorphs*

roz- $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{br-a-}\{1_{past}, \dots\} \\ \text{bɛr-}\emptyset-\{\varepsilon_{non-past\ 3sg}, \dots\} \end{array} \right\}$	CCROOT VOWEL	MAX- IO-V	CONTIG- IO _{root}	DEP- OP-V	DEP- IO-V
a. $\langle \overset{1}{\text{rozbr}}\overset{2}{\text{al}}, \text{rozber}\varepsilon, \dots \rangle$	$\overset{1}{*!}$			$\overset{2}{*}$	
b. $\langle \text{roz}\overset{3}{\varepsilon}\text{bral}, \text{roz}\overset{4}{\varepsilon}\text{b}\overset{5}{\text{re}}, \dots \rangle$		$\overset{5}{*!}$			$\overset{3\ 4}{**}$
c. $\langle \text{roz}\overset{6}{\text{ber}}\text{al}, \text{rozber}\varepsilon, \dots \rangle$			$\overset{6}{*!}$		$\overset{6}{*}$
d. $\langle \text{roz}\overset{7}{\varepsilon}\text{bral}, \text{roz}\overset{8}{\text{ber}}\varepsilon, \dots \rangle$				$\overset{7\ 8}{***!}$	$\overset{7}{*}$
e. $\langle \text{roz}\overset{9}{\varepsilon}\text{bral}, \text{roz}\overset{10}{\varepsilon}\overset{11}{\text{ber}}\varepsilon, \dots \rangle$				$\overset{11}{*}$	$\overset{9\ 10}{**}$

3.5 Overapplication in CCV roots with thematic vowels

In Section 2.2, I discussed CCV verbs where the root vowel deletes in certain forms: /f_ɪr_ɛ-a-ɪ/ → [f_ɪr_ɪːɪ]. Prefix vocalization overapplies in forms where the root vowel surfaces:

- (23) *Root vowel deleted in past, surfaces in non-past* *Vocalized prefixes throughout the paradigm*
- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----|--|----------------------|
| a. | f _ɪ r _ɪ -aː-ɪ | “warm (past)” | c. | roze-f _ɪ r _ɪ -aː-ɪ | “warm up (past)” |
| b. | f _ɪ r _ɛ j-∅-ɛ | “warm (non-past)” | d. | roze-f _ɪ r _ɛ j-∅-ɛ | “warm up (non-past)” |

For the analysis of these forms, see Appendix A.

4 Other analyses

Two points of comparison:

- Analysis of prefix vocalization arguing for cyclicity (Rubach, 1993; Ziková, 2016)
- Analysis of a different phenomenon arguing that Czech paradigmatic effects are due to base–derivative correspondence, not Optimal Paradigms–style correspondence (Sturgeon, 2003)

4.1 Cyclicity

Although Rubach (1993) and Ziková (2016) have very different analyses of prefix vocalization (in Slovak and Czech, respectively), the key point is the same: the prefix vocalizes because it attaches

- before the theme vowel or inflectional suffixes have attached, and
- before the alternating vowel in the root (if there is one) has vocalized

Abstracting away from details, they account for overapplication in [roze-bɛr-ɛ] as follows:

- (24) a. *Stage 1: Prefix attaches to root with unlinked vowel*

C	V	C	V	-	C	V	C	
r	o	z	ɛ		b	ɛ	r	[rozbr]

- b. *Stage 2: Prefix vocalizes for morphophonological reasons*

C	V	C	V	-	C	V	C	
r	o	z	ɛ		b	ɛ	r	[rozɛbr]

- c. *Later stages: other affixes attach, root vocalizes*

C	V	C	V	-	C	V	C	-	V	
r	o	z	ɛ		b	ɛ	r		ɛ	[rozeberɛ]

Predicts unvocalized prefix in CCV roots with thematic vowels (contra /roz-f_ɪɛ-a-l/ → [rozɛf_ɪa:l])

- After stage 1: [roz-f_ɪɛ], no need to vocalize prefix
- The root vowel only deletes when the theme vowel is added ([roz-f_ɪa:]), still nothing that needs repair

Predicts *categorical* prefix vocalization in secondary imperfectives like [rozɛ-bi:r-a-l]

- Derivation is identical to that of [rozɛ-bɛr-ɛ]: [rozbr] after stage 1, prefix vocalizes to [rozɛbr], vowel in root only surfaces later in the derivation to get [rozɛbi:r]
- As I stated in Section 3.1, the [bi:r] cases should *not* be treated the same way as the [bɛr] cases
- My analysis remains neutral on [bi:r], allowing for a different analysis for it; the cyclical analysis does not

Conclusion: An account based in *paradigm uniformity* gives a better explanation of the facts than one requiring *cyclicity* and *unlinked vowels*.

4.2 Correspondence: base–derivative vs. paradigms

Sturgeon (2003) argues that in Czech nominal paradigms, the nominative singular acts as a privileged base and all other forms are in a correspondence relation with it.

Is there any verb form that can serve as a consistent base, as Albright (2002, 2010) suggests, or do we need Optimal Paradigms (or equivalent)?

Repeating (14) from above:

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| (25) | <i>CC root in past, CVC root in non-past</i> | <i>CVC root in past, CC root in non-past</i> |
| | <i>prefix vocalizes throughout</i> | <i>prefix vocalizes throughout</i> |
| | a. ode-br -a -l “take away (past)” | c. ode-tʃɛt-Ø-l “subtract (past)” |
| | b. ode-bɛr-Ø-ɛ “take away (non-past)” | d. ode-tʃt -Ø-ɛ “subtract (non-past)” |

Forms with CC root allomorph ([br], [tʃt]) triggers overapplication of prefix vocalization in forms with CVC root allomorph ([bɛr], [tʃɛt]), *regardless of the morphological status of the two allomorphs*.

So no one form can serve as a privileged base, we need *symmetry* in the paradigm: any member can influence any of the others.

5 Prefix vocalization in Russian and Polish

Other Slavic languages like Russian and Polish also exhibit prefix vocalization, but unlike in Czech, it does not overapply (data from Zaliznjak, 1977; Saloni et al., 2015):

- | | | |
|------|--|---|
| (26) | <i>Russian: prefix vocalization for CC roots, no overapplication</i> | <i>Polish: prefix vocalization for CC roots, no overapplication</i> |
| a. | rɔzɐ-br -a -l “take apart (past)” | d. ɔdɛ-br -a-w “take away (past)” |
| b. | rɔz- bʲɪrʲ-∅-ot “take apart (non-past)” | e. ɔd- bʲɛz-∅ -ɛ “take away (non-past)” |
| c. | rɔz- bʲɪr -a -l “take apart (imperf.)” | f. ɔd- bʲɛr -a-w “take away (imperf.)” |

As Yearley (1995) notes, the standard account of Slavic alternating vowels (from Lightner, 1965) needs additional mechanisms to avoid overapplication (see Pesetsky, 1979).

See Gribanova (2015) for one such account of Russian prefix vocalization based on underlying defective vowels similar to those in Section 4.1.

In my analysis, CCROOTVOWEL is active in Polish and Russian, but the Optimal Paradigms constraint DEP-OP-V is not.

However, there are a couple of isolated cases in Russian showing overapplication. For example, prefixed forms of the inarguably suppletive “to go”:

- (27) *A case of prefix vocalization overapplication in Russian*
- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| a. | pədə-jdʲ-∅-ot “approach (non-past)” |
| b. | pədə-ʂ -o -l “approach (past)” |

While these cases are small in number in Russian (and presumably other Slavic languages), they perhaps deserve some attention.

6 Conclusion

Main points

- Prefix vocalization occurs in CC verb roots, and also CCV verb roots where the root vowel is deleted. I model this with a markedness constraint on the shape of the root, CCROOTVOWEL
- Prefix vocalization then *overapplies* within an inflectional paradigm, but not necessarily beyond it. I model this with an Optimal Paradigms constraint
- This approach accounts for the data better than accounts based on cyclicity and unlinked vowels
- Room for future work: variable secondary imperfectives like [rɔzɛ-bɪ:ral] and [z-bɪ:ral] (base–derivative correspondence?)

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Appendix A CCV roots with thematic vowels: analysis

In Section 2.2 and Section 3.5, I presented the following forms, repeated here from (23), which I argued contain the verb root [fɪɾɛ]:

- (28) *Root vowel deleted in past, surfaces in non-past* *Vocalized prefixes throughout the paradigm*
- | | |
|---|---|
| a. fɪɾ -a:-l “warm up (past)”
b. fɪɾɛj -ɛ “warm up (non-past)” | c. rozɛ-fɪɾ -a:-l “start to warm up (past)”
d. rozɛ-fɪɾɛj -ɛ “start to warm up (non-past)” |
|---|---|

In Section 2.2, I presented an analysis of the past forms [fɪɾa:l] and [rozɛfɪɾa:l]. In this section, I will extend this analysis to the unprefixated non-past form [fɪɾɛjɛ], which has glide insertion instead of vowel deletion, and the prefixated non-past form [rozɛfɪɾɛjɛ], where prefix vocalization overapplies.

First, let’s look at non-past /fɪɾɛ-ɛ/ yielding [fɪɾɛjɛ]. Why do we not delete the root vowel and lengthen the inflectional ending [-ɛ]? I assume unviolated IDENT-IO_{infl}, a constraint that penalizes changes in inflectional endings.

What happens when we add this constraint?

- *VV says we can’t have two long vowels [ɛɛ] in a row
- MAX-IO-MORPH says we can’t delete the inflectional ending [ɛ] to give [fɪɾɛ-∅] or [fɪɾi:-∅]
- MAX-IO-μ says if we delete one of the vowels, we have to lengthen the one that remains: /fɪɾɛ-ɛ/ → [fɪɾi:]
- IDENT-IO_{infl} says that we can’t lengthen the inflectional ending [ɛ] like we did with /fɪɾɛ-a-l/ → [fɪɾ-a:-l]
- So we have to insert a glide instead, which means that DEP-IO-C is violated by all of the constraints named above

In tableau form:

(29) *CCV root + inflectional ending: glide insertion*

	*VV	ID- IO _{infl}	MAX-IO- MORPH	MAX- IO-μ	DEP- IO-C	MAX- IO-V	ID-IO (length)
a. [fɪɾɛ] _{root} -∅-[ɛ] _{infl}	*!						
b. [fɪɾi:] _{root}			*!			*	*
c. [fɪɾ] _{root} [ɛ] _{infl}				*!		*	
d. [fɪɾ] _{root} [i:] _{infl}		*!				*	*
e. ↻ [fɪɾɛ] _{root} j[ɛ] _{infl}					*		

To get overapplication of prefix vocalization, I extend the tableaux in (12) and (29) to include paradigm effects with DEP-OP-V.

In order to keep the tableau from becoming completely unreadable, I make these assumptions:

- I omit MAX-IO-MORPH MAX-IO- μ , and CONTIGUITY-IO_{root}, as well as any candidates that violate them. That is, the only repairs for *VV that I consider are glide insertion (as in [fir₁εj-ε]) and deletion of the root vowel with corresponding lengthening of the remaining vowel (as in [fir₁-a:l]).
- I omit CONTIGUITY-IO_{root}, as well as any candidates that violate it.
- Because glide insertion can create Optimal Paradigms constraints violations in consonants as well as vowels, I use DEP-OP-V instead of DEP-OP-V to include both vowels and consonants. Its ranking does not change.
- Because the root in these forms interacts with the suffixes, I can no longer ignore violations of DEP-OP-V in the suffixes as I did in (22). I count the violations, but assume that IDENT-IO(length) prevents the inflections from collapsing together and omit candidates that collapse them, without worrying too much about the details.
- In particular, I assume that the non-past ending [ε] corresponds with neither the thematic vowel [a] nor the past ending [l]. Thus, for example, the strings [fir₁a:l] and [fir₁εje] will together incur five violations of DEP-OP-V, one for each of the segments [a:, l, ε, j, ε], since none are in correspondence with any of the others.

(30) *Prefix vocalization triggered in CC(V) root allomorph with deleted vowel then overapplies across paradigm to CCV root allomorph*

roz- $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{fir}_1\text{-a-}\{1_{past}, \dots\} \\ \text{fir}_1\text{-}\emptyset\text{-}\{\varepsilon_{non-past\ 3sg}, \dots\} \end{array} \right\}$	CCROOT VOWEL	*VV	ID- IO _{infl}	DEP- IO-C	MAX- IO-V	DEP- OP	ID-IO (length)	DEP- IO-V
a. $\langle \text{rozfir}_1^1\text{ε}^2\text{a:l}, \text{rozfir}_1^3\text{εε}, \dots \rangle$		$\begin{array}{c} 1\ 3 \\ *!^* \end{array}$				$\begin{array}{c} 123 \\ *** \end{array}$		
b. $\langle \text{rozfir}_1^{123}\text{εj}^4\text{a:l}, \text{rozfir}_1^{45}\text{εje}, \dots \rangle$				$\begin{array}{c} 14 \\ **! \end{array}$		$\begin{array}{c} 235 \\ *** \end{array}$		
c. $\langle \text{rozεfir}_1^1\text{a:l}^2\text{34}, \text{rozεfir}_1^5\text{i}^6\text{a:l}^7, \dots \rangle$			$\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ *! \end{array}$		$\begin{array}{c} 26 \\ ** \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 347 \\ *** \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 37 \\ ** \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 15 \\ ** \end{array}$
d. $\langle \text{rozfir}_1^1\text{ε}^2\text{a:l}^3\text{4}, \text{rozfir}_1^5\text{εj}^6\text{ε}, \dots \rangle$	$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ *! \end{array}$			$\begin{array}{c} 6 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 345 \\ *** \\ 67 \\ ** \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ * \end{array}$	
e. $\langle \text{rozεfir}_1^1\text{a:l}^2\text{34}, \text{rozfir}_1^5\text{εj}^6\text{ε}, \dots \rangle$				$\begin{array}{c} 6 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 134 \\ *** \\ 567 \\ ***! \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ * \end{array}$
f. $\langle \text{rozεfir}_1^1\text{a:l}^2\text{34}, \text{rozεfir}_1^5\text{εj}^6\text{ε}^7\text{8}, \dots \rangle$				$\begin{array}{c} 7 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 346 \\ *** \\ 78 \\ ** \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ * \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 15 \\ ** \end{array}$

Appendix B Prefix vocalization in perfective verbs

The table below includes counts from the SYN2015 corpus (Křen et al., 2016) for of all prefixed verbal paradigms that have at least one member with a CC root allomorph. The counts do not include verbal nouns and most passive participles, which are classified in the corpus as separate lemmata. Cells showing unvocalized prefixes are in gray. These are rare and the counts within them are small.

			PREFIX														TOTAL							
root class	verb	root allomorph	nad(e)		(v)ob(e)		(v)od(e)/(v)ot(e)		pod(e)		před(e)		roz(e)		s(e)		v(e)		vz(e)		z(e)		_C	_Cε
			nad	nade	(v)ob	(v)obe	(v)od/ (v)ot	(v)ode/ (v)ote	pod	pode	před	přede	roz	roze	s	se	v	ve	vz	vze	z	ze		
alternating CC(C) and C(C)VC (or C) root allomorphs	bral	br ber					1869	425	39				746		3744								6398	
							425		18				223		989								1655	
		řt					261						9		508								778	
		řt					1						5		178								441	
		řt					1						13		1			26				2	42	
		dral	dr der												8		2	2					10	
		hnal	hn hm	1			124	335				55	214		3622			197					4548	
			řn				2	67				10	24		1442		23						23	1545
		mlel	ml mel							23			34		159								216	
										5			37		97								139	
		pral	pr per					1							21		1						22	6
															3								3	1
		psal	ps piř	68		1		537		5650		511	136		1468			305					8676	
				12		1		81		804		108	29		236		4	76					4	1347
		sral	sr scr					3					4										6	
								10					7										10	7
		stlal	stl stel					10			3		26										39	
								2			2		2										6	
	řel ^a	řd ř	116		2070		3623		3		187	274		2458		2907		364				12002		
			6		1117		4389		4		699	205		1047		1	726		192			1	8385	
			427		1918		12821				498	1433		5137		1	6072		956			1	29262	
							1					1										1	2	
	řral	řř řř										19		701		4							724	
												15		434									449	
VERB CC(C) root allomorph	tspal																111						111	
	řkal																42						42	
	dmul																		193				193	
	dnul												191										191	
	řrel						25	4					34		79							25	117	
	řnul														730								730	
	řřal														1548		2						1617	
	řnul																4						4	
	řřal																						158	
	řřal																						4	
	řřal																						158	
	řřal																						38	
	řřal																						38	
	řřal																						1337	
	řřal																						22	
	řřal																						15395	
	řřal																						4	
	řřal																						1696	
	řřal																						35265	
	řřal																						301	
	řřal																						211	
	řřal																						80	
	řřal																						3	
	řřal																						102	
	řřal																						102	
	řřal																						1	
	řřal																						325	
	řřal																						21	
řřal																						18		
řřal																						11068		
řřal																						1		
řřal																						1		
řřal																						11095		
řřal																						100		
řřal																						30		
řřal																						477		
řřal																						477		
řřal																						1335		
řřal																						33266		
řřal																						30		
řřal																						2139		
řřal																						2		
řřal																						2		
řřal																						1011		
řřal																						5		
CCV root with root vowel sometimes deleted	řřal	řř řř																					7040	
																							1447	
	řřal	řř řř																					135	
																							476	
	řřal	řř řř																					2572	
																							388	
řřal	řř řř																					999		
																						425		
řřal	řř řř																						19	
																							3	
C-nasal roots (highly irregular!)	řřal	řř řř																					2177	
																							3283	
	řřal	řř řř																					2	
																							1258	
	řřal	řř řř																					381	
																						176		
řřal	řř řř																					135		
																						7		
řřal	řř řř																						2	
řřal/řřal	řř řř																						147	
																							577	

^aThe highly irregular verb "to go" has infinitive [jit] and non-past [jde]. The allomorph [řd] is only used in archaic forms.

^bThe thematic element [nu] often does not appear in past forms.

^c[n] regularly gets inserted between /m/ and /ř/; the roots here are /tm/ and /smř/.

^dThis verb shares its infinitive with the root [řa], whose root vowel never gets deleted. The forms are sometimes confused, even in writing.

^eIt is unclear whether [n] is part of the root or part of the thematic element. Example paradigm: infinitive [řout] (archaic [řit]), past [řal] or [řnul], non-past [řne], verbal noun [řrci].

^fIn the past, this verb can be either /řla-a-l/ [řl-a-] or /řla-nu-l/ [řl-a-nu-]. Thus, for speakers that use [řlanul], there is no form of this verb with a CC root allomorph.

Appendix C Prefix vocalization in imperfective verbs

The table below includes counts for secondary imperfective verbs derived from roots with CC allomorphs in at least one prefixed perfective form (see Appendix B). The counts do not include verbal nouns and most passive participles, which are classified in the corpus as separate lemmata. Cells showing unvocalized prefixes are in gray. These are much more common, with higher frequency, than in Appendix B.

imperfective class	perfective class	perfective		PREFIX												TOTAL				
		perfective	imperfective	nad(ε)	(v)ob(ε)	(v)od(ε)/ (v)ot(ε)	pod(ε)	před(ε)	roz(ε)	s(ε)	v(ε)	vz(ε)	z(ε)	_C	_Cε					
		nade	(v)obe	nade	(v)obe	(v)ode/ (v)ote	pod	před	roz	rozε	s	sε	v	vε	vz	vzε	z	zε		
VERB	alternating CC(C) and C(C)VC root allomorphs	bral	biral			8	1060		6		12	1049	6381	3				6401	2118	
		řetl	řital			26	190			711			458	11				1195	201	
		mlel	milal		1			2	23			1	15					3	45	
		psal	pisoval	19		15	145	20	991	46	469	1	120	15	349	50	10		147	2103
		stlal ^a	stlilal						13				10							24
		dmul	dimal									3								3
		lmul	limal												1	77				78
		mk(nu)l	mikal/mikal		1	31	21	197						159					181	228
		mřel	mřilal															90		90
		sx(nu)l	sikal/sikal												24					24
	tk(nu)l	tikal/tikal											1233		1				1234	
	řel	řilal									124		368		196				688	
	vřel	vřilal				2301	4418				78	310	2911						5290	4728
	zřel ^a	zřilal		15		2	39		657										17	696
	C-nasal roots (highly irregular!) ^b	jal/jmul	jimal		1663		77	1	1		341		224		591		12363		15260	1
		pjal/pmul	pimal			255	1	26	1	4		418	212	150	2	200			776	493
		cal/tmul	cimal				5		3			26	3	49					83	3
	other root allomorphy	alt. CC and C root	řel	řilal	53	1368	7091		14		2509		663		4291		1306		64	17359
		CC root allomorph	řinul	řilal									351		108					459
	alt. CCC and CCVC root	stlal ^a	stlilal											1						1
		CCV root with root vowel sometimes deleted	fira:l	fira:val		7		4124				17	229		380					4757
		fira:l	firi:val								6	96						5	5	102
		sma:l	smi:val										69							69
		sta:l ^c	sta:val		2		65													67
		vla:l	vla:val										3							3
imperfective morpheme attached to CC(C)(V) root allomorph	CC(C) root allomorph	řpal	řpa:val												1				1	
		řpul	řpi:val									134							134	
		řřel ^d	řřilal									105	4	19					124	4
		řřial	řřia:val		84									515						599
		řřal	řřa:val					1												1
		řřtal	řřta:val															1		1
	CC(C) root allomorph	rval	rva:val										6							6
		řtval	řtva:val										6							6
		řkal	řka:val												4264		9			4273
		řřnel	řřni:val											482						482
		řřil	řři:val		3				1											4
		řřal	řřa:val									827		6						833
řřel	řři:val									74								132		
řřel ^a	řři:val							440										440		

^aThese verbs sometimes appear with root allomorphy and sometimes with an imperfective affix.

^bAlthough it is unclear from the perfective whether the [n] is part of the root for these verbs (see Appendix B), it does appear in the imperfective.

^cThe imperfective forms for this verb are identical to those of the verb [stal], which never has a CC root allomorph.

^dThese forms may also be imperfectives of [řral].