

Notes from lecture on Kuryłowycz laws of analogy and semantic change

1 Kuryłowycz 1

- OHG gast sg. gesti pl. 'guest(s)'
 - boum sg. bouma pl. 'tree(s)'
 - one has suffix plus a stem vowel change, the other has only a suffix
- ModG Gast sg. Gäste pl.
 - Baum sg. Bäume pl.
 - both with suffix plus change in stem vowel

2 Kuryłowycz 1

- counter-examples
- OE wearm : wearmra
 - long : lengra
- ModE warm : warmer
 - long : longer
 - both now only use a suffix, the stem vowel change for *long* is gone

3 Kuryłowycz 2

- sing : singer :: farm : _____
- base : derived :: base : derived
- counter-example
 - backformations: singer : sing :: peddle : peddle
 - unproductive verb paradigm: dive : dove

4 Kuryłowycz 3

- lev (basic) + ons (subordinate) → OF lieves → lèves
- meurt → mourons
- trouve → treuve → trouvons
- pleurons → pleur → plourons

5 Kuryłowycz 4

- brother + en → brethren → brothers
- counter-example
 - teeth vs. Sabertooths
 - leaves vs. Leafs

6 Kuryłowycz 5

- LA 'key' SgN claves → *llaves → llave
 - Acc clavem → llave
- Georges, Jules, Charles (nom. sg.)
- ModF now no nominative/oblique distinction

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- sg./pl. more important

7 **Kuryłowycz 6**

- Allows for hypercorrection
- walkin < walking :: chicken < chicking

8 **Mańczak's tendencies**

- Tendency 2 seems to conflict with Kuryłowycz
- Root alternation is more often abolished

9 **Semantic change**

- widening
 - dog
 - salary
 - cupboard

10 **Narrowing**

- meat
- hound
- girl
- soldat (< solder 'to pay')

11 **Metaphor**

- bede (meant 'prayer' in ME)
- entendre (meant 'to understand' in FR, now by metaphorical extension it only means 'to hear')
 - In Spanish and Portuguese, entender can mean both 'to understand' and 'to hear'

12 **Metonymy**

- SP plata ('silver' > 'money')
- champagne
- The prime minister's office says ...

13 **Synecdoche**

- Part for the whole or whole for a part
- journal (< papier journal)
- microwave (< microwave oven)
- cell (< cellular telephone)

14 **Pejoration**

- puta (< 'girl')
- mistress (< 'woman who has control')
- lady (?)

15 **Amelioration**

- knight (< 'boy')