

"Once Again on the Origin of the Old Russian *l*-less perfect"

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Some Old Russian compositions display an enigmatic periphrastic construction, the so called *l*-less perfect of the type *vzja jesm'(i)* "I have taken", which -- at least on the surface -- looks like the aorist stem (*vzja* "took") substituted for the *l*-stem *vzja-l-* in the canonical *l*-perfect periphrasis (*vzjal(ŭ) jesm'(i)*). Multiple proposals have been advanced to explain the rise of this form. The paper evaluates the existing claims and proposes a possible new way of explaining the origin of the construction.