

Slavonic–Romanian lexicons of the 17th century and their comparative digital edition (the eRomLex project)[†]

Ana-Maria Gînsac¹, Mihai-Alex Moruz^{1,2}, Mădălina Ungureanu^{1*}

¹*Institute of Interdisciplinary Research, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Str. Al. Lăpuşneanu 26, 700057 Iaşi, Romania*

²*Faculty of Computer Sciences, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, Str. General Berthelot 16, 700483 Iaşi, Romania*

Article info

History:

Received September 29, 2021

Accepted October 19, 2021

Published December 12, 2021

Key words:

text editing

eRomLex

Slavonic–Romanian lexicons

the 17th century

old lexicography

Abstract

This study discusses the eRomLex Project, aiming at elaborating a comparative digital edition of the six bilingual Slavonic–Romanian lexicons from the 17th century, based on Pamvo Berynda’s Slavonic–Ruthenian Lexicon from the same age. Following a brief presentation of the general context of these lexicons’ appearance and the current research on this topic, we will discuss the project’s aims, pointing to the benefits of a comparative digital edition. In the second section, we will comparatively examine a few strategies used by the Romanian compilers to deal with the Slavonic–Ruthenian source, both at the level of lexical inventory and definitions. The analysed examples are currently available on the project’s digital platform.

Our comparative analysis shows that the information included in the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons is closed quantitatively to the source, except for Lex.Mard. Romanian scribes did not use all the material provided by the source, yet they added new (lists of) entries. Although most definitions are shorter than the ones in the source, there are many instances where additional information of various types was provided. The comparative digital edition, facilitated by the project’s platform, will provide valuable insights into the language, mentality and education of the period in which Romanian lexicons appeared.

1. Introduction

The beginnings and development of Romanian lexicography in the pre-modern era follow the same evolutionary stages that this field registers in other cultures, the prevailing aspect being diglossia: the competition between a cultural language and a vulgar one, which tends to replace it. In the old period, the coexistence of a language of culture, namely the Slavonic language, and a vulgar language, which claimed the status of the former, along with the fundamental differences between the two languages, highlighted the need for bilingual lexicographic tools aimed at facilitating the cultural transfer between the two languages that came into contact. The development stages of lexicographic instruments are well-known: from glosses and lists of words arranged alphabetically to actual dictionaries of large dimensions, which list the material in alphabetical order. The Romanian glosses on Slavonic texts (“Bogdan glosses”) illustrates the first stage. The brief rudimentary glosses following the model of similar Slavonic works mark the second stage: two such works dating from the 17th century are known, “the Beograd fragment”, discovered by E. Kałuźniacki at the Beograd National Library (Miscellaneous Codex no. 321, file 77, destroyed in 1941) and reproduced in Kałuźniacki (1894, p. 50–52), and “the Dragomirna fragment”, included in the Slavonic Manuscript no. 149/1929 from the Dragomirna Monastery, f. 161 (see Strungaru, 1966, p. 146; Mihăilă, 1972, p. 308). In both cases, the words are not in alphabetical order. The bilingual

[†]This work was supported by a grant of the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization, CNCS/CCCDI – UEFISCDI, project number: PN-III-P1-1.1-TE -2019-0517, within PNCDI III.

*Email address: madandronic@gmail.com.

dictionaries of large dimensions, where words are alphabetically arranged, appear in the third stage. This category includes the 17th century bilingual lexicons: *Anonymus Caransebesiensis*, a Latin–Romanian dictionary dating from the mid-17th century (see [Anon.Car.](#)), an Italian–Romanian lexicon compiled a few years before 1700 and *Lexicon Marsilianum* (around 1678–1701), both edited by [Tagliavini \(1927, 1930\)](#); Teodor Corbea’s Latin–Romanian Dictionary (see [Corbea](#)). This category also includes the six Slavonic–Romanian dictionaries that make the object of our research. During the 17th century, due to the increasing mobility and linguistic and cultural contacts, the lexicographic activity in the Romanian Principalities knows an unprecedented development and diversifies from a linguistic viewpoint. There are few Romanian-Slavonic dictionaries from that period, as Slavonic was gradually replaced by Latin, Hungarian or other Romance languages (see [Seche, 1966](#), p. 9–12).

1.1. *The Slavonic–Romanian lexicons from the 17th century*

The eRomLex project focuses on six Slavonic–Romanian lexicons from the 17th century. This group of lexicons is remarkable from several perspectives. First of all, their number is impressive: six lexicons of large dimensions that survived, some of them complete, some having small sections missing; these are among the first Romanian lexicons. Secondly, they have a close relation: all these works are based on the same source and are related, although the nature of these relations has not been wholly clarified. Moreover, they all seem to originate from the same geographical area of Wallachia. When assessing the place this group of lexicons holds within the larger framework of Romanian lexicographic activity in the 17th century, they constitute its most consistent part.

The source of the six lexicons is the Slavonic–Ukrainian Lexicon of Pamvo Berynda (1627, Kyiv), the most important lexicographic work in the Slavonic area at that time, containing around 7000 entries grouped in two alphabetical lists, i.e. a list of old common names and a list of proper names and terminology borrowed from Hebrew, Greek and Latin ([Stankiewicz, 1984](#), p. 152). Popular at the time, this lexicon played an essential role in the Ukrainian, Romanian, Russian, Byelorussian, and Polish lexicography ([Stankiewicz, 1984](#), p. 52).

All six bilingual Slavonic–Romanian lexicons are kept in manuscript, date from the second half of the 17th century (except for [Lex.Mard.](#), 1649) and are works of large dimensions, preserved almost completely (the files corresponding to letter A are missing from [Lex.3473](#), and a few files from the same letter are also missing from [Lex.Staicu](#)). As their source, these lexicons are of the L2–L1 type (the source language is the authors’ L2, while the target language is their mother-tongue, L1); this opposes [Anon.Car.](#), an L1–L2 dictionary type. This aspect shows that the works were created for different purposes. Four dictionaries are kept at the Romanian Academy Library in Bucharest, and the other two ([Lex.Pet.](#) and [Lex.Mosc.](#)) at the Russian National Library in Sankt Petersburg and the Russian State Archive for Old Documents (RGADA). [Lex.Staicu](#) and [Lex.3473](#) contain a Slavonic Grammar at the end of entries, probably an adaptation of Meletie Smotrički’s Grammar ([Strungaru, 1960](#)), while [Lex.1348](#) contains an Akathist to the Mother of God, all written by the same hand. Some of the authors/copyists of the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons are not identified¹.

1.2. *Current research on 17th century Slavonic–Romanian lexicons*

Only Mardarie’s Lexicon has been edited so far; it was reproduced in Cyrillic letters, without transcription in Latin, by [Crețu \(1900\)](#). The other lexicons have been studied based on samples: [Lex.Staicu \(Strungaru, 1966\)](#) demonstrates its filiation by comparing it with the other known works of the scholar), [Lex.Pet. \(Bogdan, 1891\)](#) describes it and establishes its source), [Lex.Mosc. \(Ciobanu, 1914\)](#) describes the manuscript, identifies its source and discusses the relation between the manuscript and its source; [Gînsac & Ungureanu, 2019](#) formulate hypotheses regarding its relation to the other lexicons). The lack of interest in editing these lexicons derives probably from the idea that they are pretty similar and tributary to their source.

¹For a synthetic view on the six lexicons, see [Gînsac & Ungureanu \(2018, p. 850–853\)](#) [also: [consilr.info.uaic.ro](#)].

Crețu (1900) and Mihăilă (1972) provide descriptions of all lexicons and comparative analyses. The scholars who studied them generally agreed on their common origin, whereas filiations were presumed based on brief comparative analyses (Mihăilă, 1972; Strungaru, 1966). The need to elaborate a comparative edition was expressed starting with the late 19th century (Bogdan, 1891; Mihăilă, 1972, p. 324), yet no steps have been made in this direction. Gînsac & Ungureanu (2018) propose a *stemma codicum* that differs from Strungaru's (1966) and formulate the hypothesis of a lost intermediary from which the lexicons, except for *Lex.Mard.*, derived. Felea (2021) analyses *Lex.Staicu* related to its source proposing a reassessment of the relation between the lexicons based on their writing style, inventory and manner of arranging the lists of terms; he suggests the existence of another Slavonic lexicon of a different type, in the additional word lists, yet this work remains unidentified.

One of the challenges in studying the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons is that they have not been edited so far, although the idea of the need for their comparative study was repeatedly stated; the parallel study of six texts of large dimensions, with a rich lexical inventory and different ways of organizing the material, is a difficult task. Besides the editing proper, which is necessary simply because this is a part of the Romanian written cultural heritage (these are the first Romanian bilingual lexicons), there are other issues to be addressed: the paternity of each lexicon, the filiations between them, their integration in the cultural context, their typology, the users, their purpose, the comparison with the source. Their editing is helpful for research on the history of the Romanian language and writing, the history of lexicography, translation, and could also be a first step for developing more digital editions of old Romanian texts.

2. The *eRomLex* project

The project aims at elaborating a comparative digital edition of the six Slavonic–Romanian lexicons from the 17th century, starting from the fact that they have the same source and pointing to the characteristics of this lexicographic network (the filiations between them, how they relate to the source, the innovations as compared to the source and their presumed usage) to bring the texts into circulation. More precisely, after the first stage of transforming the texts in an editable form (involving the interpretative transcription of the definitions in the Romanian lexicons and the extraction of headwords from *Lex.Ber.* and the Romanian ones, complying with the graphical features specific to each lexicon), there follows a stage of automatic processing and alignment of the entries in the Romanian lexicons according to the corresponding entry in the *Lex.Ber.*; if the entry is missing (Romanian lexicons introduce new entries, not always the same), the entries will be aligned with each other, according to *Lex.Mosc.*, which we consider the closest to *Lex.Ber.* The alignment is processed based on the degree of similarity of the headwords and the localization of the entries in the lexicons; to this end, the filing format implies, both in the case of *Lex.Ber.*, and in the case of Romanian lexicons, noting the file, the column and the number of the entry on each column.

2.1. *Why a digital edition?*

We designed a digitized comparative edition because it allows the extraction and comparison of data thoroughly, as a classic printed edition will never do. Moreover, the digital edition allows the simultaneous display of entries from parallel lexicons to facilitate their comparison. The database is designed to allow continuous updating, with additional texts and links to other dictionaries. The format allows correction of any nature, as well as statistical manipulation of data.

One may argue, however, that such a format does not provide viewing the texts in a form that would be closer to that of a manuscript; that is to say that the format allows an efficient display and exploitation of the linguistic content, yet it has the disadvantage of obscuring the image of the text perceived as an object. From the linear display of information on paper, we make the transition to the simultaneous display of information, and the “mirror” of the page is lost in the process (the display of the entries on a specific page will be one of the options added to the display interface; however, this option will not be able to reflect the image of a manuscript page faithfully). Nevertheless, our priority is to be able to examine the linguistic content in order to answer the questions and hypotheses formulated so far and also in order to

get a perspective over this lexicographic network and the group of scholars from the school of Țîrgoviște; the data stored digitally can be accessed and used for classical individual printed editions of these lexicons. Another issue resulting from the choice of this type of processing is that it is time-consuming since the manual validation and the correction of alignment errors (besides the philological correction, related to the transcription and collection of Slavonic texts) take a significant amount of time.

2.2. *Why a comparative edition?*

The idea of a comparative edition of the 17th century Slavonic–Romanian lexicons was advanced more than a century ago (Bogdan, 1891, p. 204) and subsequently restated by Strungaru (1966) and Mihăilă (1972, p. 323–324). They regarded this initiative as indispensable for discussing the relation between the lexicons and between them and their source. The author proposes a strict alphabetical organization of the entries; each entry should be assigned a number that would accompany it in the general list, according to the model applied by Crețu (1900) for *Lex.Mard.*

We have designed the comparative edition based on the same principle, as we assume this is the optimal way to examine the relations between the lexicons. The Slavonic–Romanian lexicons constitute a network as they were copies. Each of them contains information about their authors' identity, interests, and their activity in the Slavonic schools of the time. Certain phenomena that are difficult to explain within a lexicon can be clarified by appealing to the rest of them. Such an example is provided by the entry Διοσκόρῳ (*Lex.Ber.*), having the following explanation in *Lex.Ber.*: Ζέυσοῦ ὄφιός “fiul lui Zeus [son of Zeus]. Oc.: 13”. The Romanian lexicons render this explanation as follows:

Lex.Pet.: Διοσκόρῳ – feciorul lui Zevs [son of Zeus]

Lex.Staicu.: Δῖωσκῶ – coconul lu Zevs

Lex.3473.: Δῖοσκῶρ – fecior lui Zevs

Lex.Mosc.: Δῖοσκόρῳ – fecior lui Zevs

Lex.1348.: Δῖωσκοῶ – feciorul lui Zevs sau blîndișoru [son of Zeus or the gentle one]

Lex.Mard.: —.

One can immediately note the additional explanation provided in *Lex.1348*, which seems to be a surname of Dioscor, a martyr celebrated on the 13th of October, mentioned in Dosoftei's *Viața și petreacerea svinților* [Lives of Saints]:

“Într-aceastaș dzî, pomenirea svîntului măcenic Dioscor.

Acesta s-au nevoit în zilele împăratului Dioclitian. De rodul său era din Schinopoliți și era din sfat. Și socotind toate lucrurile aceștii vieți ca gunoaiele, numai pentru să-ș agonesască pre Domnul Hristos. Deci, luă îndrăznire și astătu naintea boiarinului Luchian. Și defăimîndu-l și batgiocurindu-l și nebăgînd samă nice-ntr-o nemică îngroziturile și răstiturile lui, nice măguliturile, că-l aducea și în foc, și în vârteaje, și-n tot fealiul de munci. Și toate era o nemică și fără de nice o ispravă la svîntul; și i-au tăiatu-i capul”.

[On the same day, the celebration of the holy martyr Dioscor.

He lived in the time of Emperor Diocletian. He was originally from Kynopolis and a member of the council. He lived his life valuing nothing but his faith in Jesus Christ. He bravely stood against governor Lucianus, who tortured, defamed and threatened him, but nothing could turn the brave saint from his faith, and thus they cut his head off.]

(DVS, p. 65)

However, this presumed surname is not mentioned anywhere else, nor does it seem justified by the biographical synthesis in Dosoftei. The comparison with the other lexicons indicates the source of this information. Two lines below, the lexicons, except for *Lex.1348*, give the correspondent entry for Δίεκορῳ “chalice” (*Lex.Ber.*):

Lex.Pet.: дїскоць – blidişorul [the small pot]

Lex.Staicu: дїскѡ – blidişor [small pot]

Lex.Mosc.: дїскоць – blidişorul

Lex.3473: дїскоць – blidişorul.

Thus, the additional note in **Lex.1348** does not prove the use of an unknown source but a copying error. Therefore, when copying the definition, the scribe (probably using one of the other lexicons, in which the form is marked by article), skips a line and copies the definition for дїскоць, which he then adapts to adjust it to the title word; or he erroneously reads дїскѡрь instead of дїскоць and assumes that the same word was noted twice, with different explanations.

Aligning the lexicons facilitates the discussion about their filiations, as in the example below, which shows the coincidental equivalence between **Lex.Mard.** and **Lex.Staicu**, on the one hand, and **Lex.Mosc.**, **Lex.Pet.** and **Lex.1348**, on the other hand:

Lex.Ber.: ѡендѡрь – “ugliness”, actually, **везлѣнїе** “without beauty”

Lex.Mard.: ѡендѡрь – fără frîmseațe [without beauty]

Lex.Mosc.: ѡендѡрь – necuviință [impiety]

Lex.Staicu: ѡѣдѡрь – fără frumoșeațe [without beauty]

Lex.Pet.: ѡендѡрь – necuviință [impiety]

Lex.3473: [file missing]

Lex.1348: ѡѣдѡрь – [uncertain reading because of the deteriorated file] necuviință [impiety].

3. Observations on the technique of processing the source

The automatic processing of lexicons allows us to determine how the authors of Romanian lexicons process the source quantitatively (reduction or amplification of the inventory of entries) and in terms of the structure and data provided in definitions. Given the large amount of material and the fact that not the entire corpus is available to this point, an exhaustive analysis cannot be provided. The examples we are advancing here are only an illustration of some of the ways of capitalizing on the source.

3.1. Quantitative level (reduction/amplification of the inventory)

Fig. 1 shows, comparatively, the number of entries in the seven aligned lexicons:

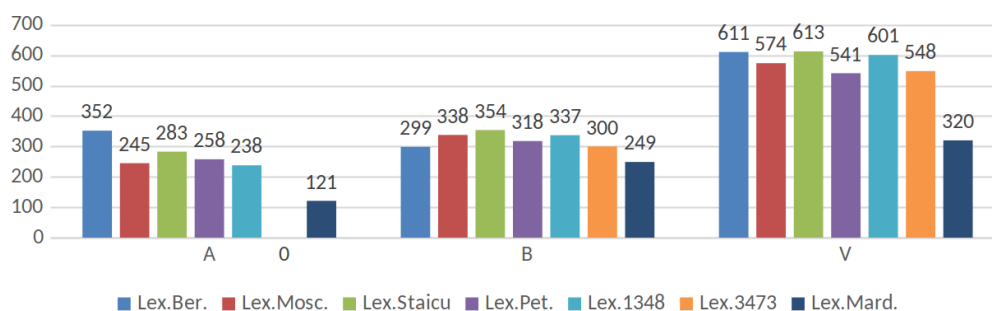
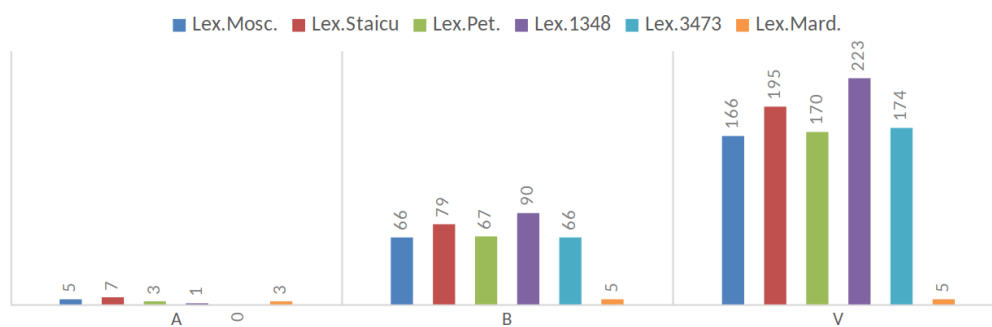


Figure 1: Number of entries under letters A, B, V

The differences between the lexicons as far as the inventory under each letter is concerned are not significant. The only exception is **Lex.Mard.**, which is less extended. On the other hand, the other lexicons have an inventory quantitatively similar to that in **Lex.Ber.**

The Romanian lexicons add several entries, which vary from one to another compared to the inventory displayed in **Lex.Ber.** (Fig. 2).

Figure 2: Additional entries to *Lex.Ber.*

One can note the differences in the treatment of lexical inventory between the lexicons and from a general perspective, from one letter to the other (the conclusions related to letter A cannot be validated since many pages from *Lex.Staicu* are missing). *Lex.Mard.* has additions for all three sub-inventories, whereas *Lex.1348* displays the highest number of additions, although the values are quite similar.

A differentiated outlook over the inventories in the two lists of words in *Lex.Ber.* is necessary, yet it cannot be generated at the moment. The analysis of the entries indicates that the list of common words is the most faithfully treated, whereas, from the second list (containing proper names and borrowed terminology), only the best-known elements were selected; for instance, the selected proper names are those of monks that could be used as common names and the names of the best-known gods.

There are two ways of introducing new entries in the Romanian lexicons: (a) interspersed among the entries originating from *Lex.Ber.*; (b) in a block, at the end of the entries originating from *Lex.Ber.*; both methods are characteristic for different types of words.

- (a) Entries that are interspersed between the entries taken from *Lex.Ber.* are not numerous. They mainly consist of paradigms to which a few nouns belonging to the common vocabulary are added. These entries are either common to all lexicons or specific to only some of them (see the table below).

<i>Lex.Ber.</i>	Slavonic–Romanian lexicons		
БРАЧУСА	<i>Lex.Mosc.</i> etc.	БРАЧУСА	mă însor (eu) [(I) marry]
	<i>Lex.Mosc.</i>	БРАЧИТЕСА	să însoară el [he marries]
	<i>Lex.Staicu</i>	БРАЧИТЕСА	se însoară [marries/marry]
	<i>Lex.Pet.</i>	БРАЧИТЕСА	să însoară el [he marries]
	<i>Lex.3473</i>	—	—
	<i>Lex.1348</i>	БРАЧИТЕСА	să-nsoară [marries/marry]
БРАЦАЛО	<i>Lex.Mosc.</i> etc.	БРАЦАЛО	sunare, clopoțel [ringing, little bell]
	<i>Lex.Mosc.</i>	БРАЦАЮ	sun clopoțel [I ring a little bell]
	<i>Lex.Staicu</i>	БРАЦАЮ	sun, drângăiesc [I ring, I play a stringed instrument]
	<i>Lex.Pet.</i>	БРАЦАЮ	sunu în clopoțelu [I ring a little bell]
	<i>Lex.1348</i>	БРАЦАЮ	sun un clopoțel [I ring a little bell]
	<i>Lex.3473</i>	БРАЦАЮ	sun clopoțel [I ring a little bell]

- (b) The block entries from the end of the lists may also partially overlap, with differences from one lexicon to the other. They contain words from the essential vocabulary, some of them even repeated (see the comparison provided in Gînsac & Ungureanu, 2019, p. 255–257). Felea (2021) advances the hypothesis, relating it to *Lex.Staicu*, that these entries originate from another source, a type 2 Slavonic lexicon (with no alphabetical organization).

3.2. The level of the structure of entries and data provided

The entries from the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons are modified compared to the source in the selected information. These changes consist primarily of reducing the information content and type, but the entries

are expanded in some cases compared to **Lex.Ber.**

3.2.1. Definitions reduced compared to the source

There are various types of reduction strategies: omission of information, omission of certain equivalents, synthesis.

(a) **Ѡссáрїй**

Lex.Ber.: Lepton, obol, Gr.: **ὄρτρία**, coin, heller, 6 Polish coins or 2 şalăus. In Athens, an obol was worth 6 copper coins, and a copper coin – 7 leptons. Numa, the first Roman king after Romulus, ordered asses and obols to be made of iron and copper, because before him the Roman coin was made of ceramic and leather².

Lex.Mard.: fileariu, mangăr.

Lex.Staicu: banii. Fost-*au* și niște bani de lut și de piale la Rîm de s-au chiebat assarii. [Money. There was also some clay and leather money in Rome, called *assarii*.]

Lex.Mosc.: banul. Fost-*au* și niște bani de lut și de piiale la Rîm de s-au chemat assarii.

Lex.Pet.: banul. Fost-*au* și niște bani de lut și de piiale la Rîm de s-au chemat assarii.

Lex.3473: —

Lex.1348: banul. Fost-*au* și niște bani de lut și *d[e]* piiale la Rîm de s-au chemat assari.

This entry explains a type of currency/coin. In **Lex.Ber.**, the Ruthenian equivalents are followed by an equivalent in Greek and the specification of the coin's value in the ancient and contemporary period. Historical information regarding the material of the coin was added. We note two directions in the Romanian lexicons: (1) **Lex.Mard.** gives two equivalents (one borrowed from Hungarian and one from Turkish, both with attestations from Wallachia in **DLR**), omitting the other explanations; (2) the other lexicons have a different structure, based on a synthesis of the information from **Lex.Ber.** In **Lex.Mosc.**, the entry is listed again once more, this time only with the definition “banul” [money].

(b) **Ѡртїрїй**

Lex.Ber.: **Грѣтáнь** [throat]; through it water and air enter inside; the vein of the breath, the vein of the pulse, the vein. Omil. apost. 1222.

Lex.Mard.: grumazul prin care întră înlăuntru apa și văzduhul [the throat; through it water and air enter inside]

Lex.Staicu: grumazii [throat, pl.]

Lex.Mosc.: grumazii

Lex.Pet.: grumazii

Lex.3473: —

Lex.1348: grumazii.

Lex.Ber. has an equivalent and an explanation, followed by additional meanings and a bibliographic reference. **Lex.Mard.** provides the definition that is the closest to the source (equivalent + explanation); the other lexicons indicate just the plural equivalent of the Ukr. **грѣтáнь**, which also entered Romanian (*girtan*) either from Ukrainian or Slavonic; **DLR** gives a Slavonic etymon and attests it in Cantemir, s.v. *gitlej. Văzduh* [sky] in **Lex.Mard.** is a direct borrowing from the source (**вода и вѣдѣ**), where it has the meaning ‘air’, unattested by **DLR**.

3.2.2. Definitions amplified compared to the source

(a) **БѣмóлвнїѠ**

²The definitions in **Lex.Ber.** were translated by Cecilia Maticiuc and Ion-Mihai Felea, as part of the eRomLex project.

- Lex.Ber.:** Ερημίτης, ПУСТЫ́НИК [hermit]
Lex.Mard.: negîlcevitoriu, pustinic [without quarrel, hermit]
Lex.Staicu: pustinnic, ce petreace fără gîlceavă [anchorite, what is without quarrel]
Lex.Mosc.: sihastru, cela ci petreace fără [ă] de gîlceavă [hermit, what is without quarrel]
Lex.Pet.: sihastru, cela ce petreace fără de gîlceavă
Lex.3473: sihastru, cela ce petreace fără gîlceavă
Lex.1348: —.

The Romanian lexicons do not reproduce the explanation in Greek. The equivalent *pustnic* / *sibastru* [hermit] is added a construction obtained from a structure-related lexical calque; Slav. ВѢМОЛВНІИ is formed from мѡлтва ‘tumultus’ (Miklosich, s.v.), with the privative prefix ВЕЗ-. The choice *pustinnic* (**Lex.Mard.**, **Lex.Staicu**) is determined by the context and the term in the source; it is not clear why in some lexicons it is replaced by *sibastru* [hermit], yet such cases, discussed comparatively in context, could help determine the authors’ area of origin and even establish paternities.

(b) Я́нкѹра

- Lex.Ber.:** anchor (cf. Popowicz, s.v. КОТВА) + bibliographic reference (Nr. Mth. 23)
Lex.Mard.: cătușe la corabie [hooks to the ship]
Lex.Staicu: mîțele corăbiei ce aruncă în mare cu funile și țin corabiia [the anchors of the ship that throw the ropes into the sea and hold the ship]
Lex.Mosc.: mîțele corăbiei ce aruncă în mare cu funile și țin corabiia
Lex.Pet.: mîțile corăbii ce aruncă în mare cu funile și țin corabiia
Lex.3473: —
Lex.1348: mașele corăbie[i] ce aruncă în mare cu funil[e] și țin corabiia.

The Romanian lexicons move away from the definition provided in **Lex.Ber.**, giving up the bibliographical reference while attempting to provide a functional description of the object designated by the entry. **Lex.1348** seems to be a copy of another lexicon, as indicated by the copying error (*mașele* instead of *mîțele*). In **DLR**, the meaning ‘anchor’ of *mîță* is attested in **Lex.Staicu**; the same situation occurs in **NTB** (1648) and regionally in texts from Banat and Transylvania, although the examples indicate that the term designates various hook-shaped tools throughout the Romanian territory.

(c) Вѡснѡліи

- Lex.Ber.:** царѡ [emperor] + bibliographic reference
Lex.Mard., Lex.Mosc., Lex.Pet., Lex.3473: împărat [emperor] (with graphical variations)
Lex.1348: цѡрѡ. împărat
Lex.Staicu: cel dăstoinic a fi întru în polate împărătești [the one worthy to be in royal palaces].

Lex.1348 also gives the equivalent provided in **Lex.Ber.** (or the possibly lost intermediary lexicon whose existence we assume). **Lex.Staicu** explains the figurative meaning of the term, which is not justified by any element in the source definition.

(d) Γορά

- Lex.Ber.:** metaf. βѡρά [faith]
Lex.Staicu: măgură, munte [hill, mountain]
Lex.Pet.: măgură, muntele [hill, the mountain]
Lex.1348: munte, măgură [mountain, hill]
Lex.3473: metaf. măgură, credință, munte [hill, faith, mountain]
Lex.Mard.: muntele, credința [the mountain, the faith].

Some definitions from **Lex.Ber.** contain explanations that are considered metaphorical, being marked by the abbreviation *metaf(or)*. (**Rozumnyj**, 1968, p. 38–39), for instance: **Гѣсли**: “violin [...]; metaphor., i.e. symbolically, it means ‘thought’”. In this example, **Lex.3473** and **Lex.Mard.** translate the explanation **вѣра** as ‘faith’ (cf. **Sparwenfeld**, in *Lexicon Slavonicum*, 1684–1705). However, all the lexicons record the explanation ‘mountain, hill’ (**Miklosich**, s.v. **гора**), missing from the source.

(e) **Гѣцѣр**

Lex.Ber.: only bibliographical references

Lex.3473: șopîrle [lizards]

Lex.Staicu: șopîrle

Lex.Mosc.: șopîrle.

In the case of **Гѣцѣр**, for which the source indicates only bibliographical references (“Nik. 48. From St. Basil: On Virginity”), the three Slavonic–Romanian lexicons that list the term add the explanation.

(f) **ДЮКЛИТІАНЪ**

Lex.Ber.: **Б҃҃ѣ названѣи** [called/named by God]; Sep. 2

Lex.Pet.: numele lui Dumnezeu [the name of God]

Lex.1348: numele lui Dumnezeu

Lex.Staicu: numele lui Dumnezeu

Lex.3473: numele lui Dumnezeu, sau de Dumnezeu chemat [the name of God, or called/named by God]

Lex.Mard.: —.

For **ДЮКЛИТІАНЪ**, besides the explanation in the source, “called by God”, which only **Lex.3473** (contains more extended definitions) renders faithfully, the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons have the equivalent “the name of God”, which is most likely an approximate interpretation of the explanation in **Lex.Ber.** This aspect and the second position of the explanation taken from the source may indicate that **Lex.3473** initially copied one of the other lexicons and then collated it with the source.

(g) **Якрѣды**

Lex.Ber.: Type of grass or plant whose root sticks to the roots of other plants and takes their taste. See also **прѣжїѣ**. The word **прѣси** is also the name for locusts (**конники**), due to their resemblance with the flower and root of that plant. About these, read the book entitled *Cornucopia*. Apoc. 9:3. Ecl.12:5 and **Прѣги** Lev. 11. Homonym of a plant, flying creature of various types.

Lex.Mard.: mugur sau lăcuste [sprout or locusts]

Lex.Mosc.: Iaste o iarbă în pustiile Iordanului cărie rădăcina trage dul/ceața tuturor erbilor care vor fi aproape de ea și la mîncare iaste dul/ce și ține sațiuł. Iar floarea-i iaste aseamene lăcustei. Rădăcina aceștii erbi au mîncat și Ioan Cr[ă]stitel. [It is a grass in the desert of Jordan whose root takes the taste of all the other plants that grow nearby; it has a sweet taste and it is nourishing. And its flower resembles a locust. John the Baptist ate the root of such plant.]

Lex.Staicu: iaste o iarbă în pustiile Iordanului a căriia rădăcină trage dul/ceața altor erbi de pe împrejur și la mîncare iaste dul/ce și ține sațiu. Iar floarea ei iaste aseamenea lăcustei. Aceasta se zice și prujie, iară prudzite-s acelaș[i] nume sau connici lăcuste, pentru asemănarea florii și rădăcinii acei erbi. De aceasta să cetești cartea ce se chiamă Cornucopie. Apoc. Tl. glav. 9. Eclisias. 12. [It is a grass in the desert of Jordan whose root takes the taste of other plants that grow nearby; it has a sweet taste and it is nourishing. And its flower resembles a locust. It is also named *prujie*, and *prudzite* is the same name, or *connichi* locusts, due to the resemblance of the

flower and the root of this plant with the locusts. About these, read the book entitled *Cornucopia*. Apoc. commentary chapter 9. Ecl. 12.]

Lex.Pet.: iaste o iarbă în pustia Iordanului cării rădăcina trage dulceața tuturor erbilor care vor fi aproape de ea și la mîncare iaste dulce și ține sațiu. Iar flo[a]rea îi iaste aseamene lăcuste. Rădăcina aceștii erbi au mîncat și Ioan Predtecea. [It is a grass in the desert of Jordan whose root takes the taste of all the other plants that grow nearby; it has a sweet taste and it is nourishing. And its flower resembles a locust. John the Baptist ate the root of such plant.]

Lex.3473: —

Lex.1348: Iaste o iarbă în pustia Iordanului cării rădăcina trage dulceața tuturor erbilor [...] ³ fi aproape de [...] mîncare iaste dulce și ține sațiu. Iar floarea ei iaste aseamenea lăcuste. Rădăcina aceștii erbi au mîncat și Ioan Preadtecea. [It is a grass in the desert of Jordan whose root takes the taste of all the other plants [...]; it has a sweet taste and it is nourishing. And its flower resembles a locust. John the Baptist ate the root of such plant.]

Except for **Lex.Mard.**, which indicates only two possible equivalents (as implied by definition in the source), the Romanian lexicons report the information slightly differently: the bibliographic indications can be either kept (**Lex.Staicu**) or omitted (the other works), as is the case with the linguistic information provided by **Lex.Ber.** (other names for the same plant or the double meaning of a term and its justification concerning the reality). **Lex.Mosc.**, **Lex.Pet.** and **Lex.1348** provide additional information regarding the presence of the plant in the Christian culture, probably borrowed from a hagiographic work or belonging to the author's previous knowledge. The confusion surrounding the referent of the term that designated the food eaten by John the Baptist in the desert persisted in the translations of the time, cf. **BB**, *Mt*, 3, 4: "Hrana lui era vlăstare și miiare sălbatică" [he fed on sprouts and wild honey]; **NTB**, *Mt*, 3, 4: "mîncarea lui era lăcuste și miiare sălbatică" [he fed on locusts and wild honey]); this information was probably also provided in **Lex.3473**. These three works differ in terms of denominating John the Baptist.

Such different treatment of the information from **Lex.Ber.** might show the filiation between the six lexicons and possibly even the use of another lexicographical source. Furthermore, the definitions reveal that the authors were not mere copyists, as they modified and adapted the material according to what they regarded as relevant information. In turn, this information may shed light on the purpose of these lexicons.

4. Conclusions

The authors of the Slavonic–Romanian lexicons frequently opt to abbreviate the definitions from their Slavonic–Ruthenian source rather than amplify them. However, the inventory of entries is consistently adjusted. The innovations in definitions (reductions and amplifications) indicate Romanian authors' interests, besides shedding light upon the filiations between these works.

The comparative edition of the lexicons emphasizes the relations between them. The examples we provided indicate that **Lex.Mard.** is a separate redaction. Things are less clear as far as the other lexicons are concerned, but a statistical study of the entire material will surely provide more observations.

As we have shown, the digital edition has both advantages and disadvantages. However, for the exhaustive comparison of the lexicons, it is a valuable tool as it facilitates the simultaneous viewing of entries. It will be a helpful tool for lexicographers, who can identify new lexemes, forms and attestations, for those studying the history of language and future digital corpora or electronic bilingual lexicons.

³Illegible in manuscript.

Bibliography

A. Sigle

- Anon.Car. = *Dictionarium Valachico Latinum. Primul dicționar al limbii române* [c. 1650], studiu introductiv, ediție, indici și glosar de Gh. Chivu, Editura Academiei Române, București, 2008.
- BB = *Biblia, adecă Dumnezeiasca Scriptură ale cei Vechi și ale cei Noao Lêge* [...], tipărită întâia oară la 1688, în timpul lui Șerban Vodă Cantacuzino, Domnul Țării Românești, în Munteanu, E. (coord.), *Monumenta linguae Dacoromanorum. Pars XXIII. Novum Testamentum I: Evangelia*, Editura Universității “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” din Iași, 2015.
- Corbea = Teodor Corbea, *Dictiones Latine cum Valachica interpretatione*, ediție de Alin-Mihai Gherman, Clusium, Cluj-Napoca, 2001.
- DLR = *Dicționarul limbii române*, tom. I–XIX (anastatic edition), Editura Academiei Române, București, 2010.
- DVS = Dosoftei, *Viața și petrecerea svinților, Iași, 1682–1686*, text îngrijit, notă asupra ediției și glosar de Rodica Frențiu, Editura Echinoc, Cluj, 2002.
- Lex.Ber. = Pamvo Berynda, *Leksikon slavenorosskij i imen tl'kovanie*, Kiev, 1927 (Kutein, 21653) [[online](#)].
- Lex.Mard. = ЛЕЖИКОНЪ СЛАВѢНОВАШЕСКЫН И ИМѢ ТЛЪКОВАНІЕ, in the Romanian manuscript no. 450, Romanian Academy Library, Bucharest [[online](#)].
- Lex.Mosc. = *Lexicon slavo-român*, The Russian State Archives of Ancient Documents (Moscow), ф. 188, оп. 1, ч. 2, р. 491.
- Lex.Pet. = *Lexicon ce să zice cuvinte pe scurt alese din limba slovenească pre limba rumînească diialectică tilcuite*, The National Library of Russia, Saint Petersburg, location Q.XVI.5–Славяно-молдавский словарь, 100 листов, составлен в 1695 году.
- Lex.Staicu = ЛЕЖИКОН СЛОВѢНСКОЙ, in the Romanian manuscript no. 312, Romanian Academy Library, Bucharest (41^r–216^v).
- Lex.1348 = The lexicon from the Romanian manuscript no. 1348, Romanian Academy Library, Bucharest (ff. 1–84^v); without a title page.
- Lex.3473 = The lexicon from the Romanian manuscript no. 3473, Romanian Academy Library, Bucharest (ff. 1–369^v); without a title page.
- Miklosich = Franz Miklosich, *Lexicon Paleoslovenico-Graeco-Latinum*, G. Braumueller, Vindobonæ, 1862–1865 [[online](#)].
- NTB = *Noul Testament sau Împăcarea cu Leagea Noao a lui Iisus Hristos Domnului nostru, izvodit cu mare socotință den izvod grecescu și slavonescu pren limbă rumânească* [...], Bălgrad, 1648 [modern edition: Editura Episcopiei Ortodoxe Române a Alba Iuliei, 1988].
- Popowicz = Emilian Popowicz, *Ruthenisch-Deutsches Wörterbuch*, Langenscheidtsche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Berlin, 1911.
- Sparwenfeld = Johan Gabriel Sparwenfeld, *Lexicon Slavonicum* [1684–1705], vol. I, edited and commented by Ulla Birgerard, Upsalla, 1987.

B. Literatură secundară

- Bogdan, I. (1891). *Un lexicon slavo-român din secolul XVII*, in “Convorbiri literare”, **XXV**, p. 193–204.
- Ciobanu, Șt. (1914). *Славяно-румынский словарь библиотеки Московскаго Общества Истории и Древностей No 240*, in “Русский филологический вестник”, **71** (1), p. 75–88.
- Crețu, G. (ed.) (1900). *Mardarie Cozianul. Lexicon slavo-românesc și tilcuirea numelor din 1649*, Edițiunea Academiei Române, Institutul de Arte Grafice “Carol Göbl”, București.
- Felea, I.-M. (2021). *The Staicu lexicon in relation to lexicons belonging to the Berynda family: orthography and structure*, in “Diacronia”, **13**, June 13, art. A181, [Crossref](#).
- Ginsac, A.-M. & Ungureanu, M. (2018). *La lexicographie slavonne-roumaine au XVII^e siècle. Adaptations roumaines d'après le Leksikon slavenorosskij de Pamvo Berynda*, in “Zeitschrift für romanische Philologie”, **134** (3), p. 845–876, [Crossref](#).
- Ginsac, A.-M. & Ungureanu, M. (2019). *Lexiconul de la Moscova în raport cu celelalte lexicoane slavo-române din secolul al XVII-lea*, in “Philologica Jassyensia”, **XV** (2), p. 245–258.
- Kalužniacki, E. (1894). *Ueber ein Kirchenlavisch-rumänisches Vocabular*, in “Archiv für slavische Philologie”, **XVI**, p. 46–53.
- Mihăilă, G. (1972). *Contribuții la studiul lexicografiei slavo-române din secolul al XVII-lea*, in *Contribuții la istoria culturii și literaturii române vechi*, Editura Minerva, București, p. 307–324.
- Rozumnyj, J. (1968). *Proper Names in Pamvo Berynda's “Leksikon slavenorosskij i imen tl'kovanie” of 1627*, thesis presented to the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ottawa through the Department of Slavic Studies, Ottawa, University of Ottawa.
- Seche, M. (1966). *Schiță de istorie a lexicografiei române*, vol. I: *De la origini pînă la 1880*, Editura Științifică, București.
- Stankiewicz, E. (1984). *Grammars and Dictionaries of the Slavic Languages from the Middle Ages Up to 1850: An Annotated Bibliography*, Mouton Publishers, Berlin, [Crossref](#).
- Strungaru, D. (1960). *Gramatica lui Smotrițki și prima gramatică românească*, in “Romanoslavica”, **IV**, p. 289–307.
- Strungaru, D. (1966). *Începuturile lexicografiei române*, in “Romanoslavica”, **XIII**, p. 141–158.
- Tagliavini, C. (1927). *Un frammento di terminologia italo-romena ed un dizionario geografico dello Stolnic Constantin Cantacuzino*, in “Revista filologica”, **I**, p. 167–184.
- Tagliavini, C. (ed.) (1930). *“Lexicon Marsilianum”, dizionario latino-romeno-ungherese del sec. XVII*, Cultura Națională, București.