NEW PHENOMENA IN THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE CHUVASH LANGUAGE:  
THE STRONGEST FORM OF THE VERB CONTRACTION  
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The study material is extrashort forms of Chuvash verbs kay ‘go’ (1), kil ‘come up’ (2), ści ‘eat’ (3), pul ‘be’ (10) which are being actively used in oral speech. The words mentioned are considered in the system of verbs conjugation in the present tense because their limiting form of contraction is implemented in this paradigm. Other verbs of the Chuvash language do not have any form of limiting contraction. The author analyzes the morphemic structure of limiting form of contraction in verbals by means of traditional morphology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) kay ‘go’</th>
<th></th>
<th>Limiting contraction form</th>
<th>PL, prescriptive form</th>
<th>Colloquial form</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>1. kayatáp</td>
<td>kayap</td>
<td>kap</td>
<td>kayatpăr</td>
<td>kayatpăr</td>
<td>katpăr</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. kayatán</td>
<td>kayan</td>
<td>kan</td>
<td>kayatăr</td>
<td>kayatăr</td>
<td>katăr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. kayat’</td>
<td>kayat’</td>
<td>kat’</td>
<td>kayaşşĕ</td>
<td>kaşşĕ</td>
<td>kaş</td>
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<tr>
<th>(2) kil ‘come up’</th>
<th></th>
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<td>1. kiletĕp</td>
<td>kilep</td>
<td>kep</td>
<td>kiletpĕr</td>
<td>kiletpĕr</td>
<td>k.Ctăpĕr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. kiletĕn</td>
<td>ketĕn</td>
<td>ken</td>
<td>kiletĕr</td>
<td>kiletĕr</td>
<td>k.Ctĕr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. kilet</td>
<td>kilet</td>
<td>ket</td>
<td>kileşşĕ</td>
<td>keşşĕ</td>
<td>keş</td>
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<tr>
<th>(3) śi ‘eat’</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. śiyetĕp</td>
<td>śiyep / śiyap</td>
<td>śap</td>
<td>śiyetpĕr</td>
<td>śiyetpĕr</td>
<td>šapăp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. śiyetĕn</td>
<td>śeten / śėtăn</td>
<td>šan</td>
<td>śiyetĕr</td>
<td>śiyetĕr</td>
<td>šatăn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. śiyet</td>
<td>śiyet / śiyat’</td>
<td>šat’</td>
<td>śiyeşşĕ / śiyaşşĕ</td>
<td>šaşşĕ</td>
<td>šaş</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compare with morphemic articulation of these forms in the context of verbs in the first person singular (4–6):

(4) kay-at-ăp  
go-PRS-1SG  
‘I am going’

(5) kay-a-p  
go-PRS-1SG  
‘I am going’

(6) k-a-p  
go-PRS-1SG  
‘I am going’

In case of verb ści (3), the conversion of the front vowels into deep vowels within allolog is related to the neutral phone character [y] (7).

(7) ści<y>et-ĕp = ści<y>at-ăp  
eat<INFIX>-PRS-1SG  
‘I am eating’
See also (8–9).

(8) teley-e = teley-a
    happiness-DAT
    ‘fortunately’
(9) muzey-re = muzey-ra
    museum-LOC
    ‘in the museum’

The verb *pul* ‘be’ is in the process affixation in one of its forms. The conversion of the verb in the third person singular, present tense (*pulat’*) into the affix -păt’ / -pĕt goes through limiting contraction form *pat’*. In this case, the maximum contraction is characteristic only for the third person singular of the present tense (10), in contradistinction to verbs *kay, kil, și*.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>(10) pul ‘be’</th>
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<td>pulap</td>
<td>ø</td>
<td>pulatpăr</td>
<td>pulatăr</td>
<td>pulatăr</td>
<td>ø</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. pulatăn</td>
<td>pulan</td>
<td>ø</td>
<td>pulatăr</td>
<td>pulatăr</td>
<td>pulatăr</td>
<td>ø</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. pulat’</td>
<td>pulat’</td>
<td>pat’</td>
<td>pulășăśe</td>
<td>pulaś</td>
<td>pulaś</td>
<td>ø</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The basis of the verb to which the obligatoriness affix -păt’ / -pĕt is joined, is the future tense participle of -as / -es (three stages of affixation *pulat’* sa. 11–16).

(11) kay -as pul-at’
    go-PTCP.FUT be-PRS.3SG
    ‘must go’
(12) kay as p-at’
    go-PTCP.FUT be-PRS.3SG
    ‘must go’
(13) kay-as-păt’ / k-as-păt’
    go-PTCP.FUT-NEC
    ‘must go’
(14) kil-es pul-at’
    come_out-PTCP.FUT be-PRS.3SG
    ‘must come out’
(15) kil-es pat’
    come_out-PTCP.FUT be-PRS.3SG
    ‘must come out’
(16) kil-es-pĕt / k-es-pĕt
    come_out-PTCP.FUT-NEC
    ‘must come out’

The affix -păt’ / -pĕt coincides semantically with the affix -malla / -melle (17–18).

(17) kay-malla = kay-as-păt’
    go-PTCP.NEC = go-PTCP.FUT-NEC
    ‘must go’
(18) kil-melle = kil-es-pĕt
    come_up-PTCP.NEC = come_up-NEC
    ‘must come out’

Thus, the most frequent verbs of the Chuvash language *kay ‘go’, kil ‘come up’, și ‘eat* in the form of the present tense are exposed to super-reduction. Their limitary contracted paradigms of conjunction are constructed in accordance with the following scheme: a root compressed to an initial sound + present-tense affix + personal affix.

The verb *pul* ‘be’ takes an extra short form only in the third person singular of the present tense (*pat’*). At the same time, the form mentioned begins to function as an obligatoriness affix (-păt’ / -pĕt).