ILIANA KRAPOVA krapova@unive.it

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Edited by Lilia Schürcks Anastasia Giannakidou Urtzi Etxeberria

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The Case for Genitive Case in Bulgarian¹

1 Introduction

In this paper we argue, differently from both traditional and modern analyses, that Bulgarian possessive clitics are underlyingly either dative or genitive despite the morphological merger between these two Cases in the language. The argument will involve the following steps:

First we show on the basis of evidence discussed in CINQUE & KRAPOVA (2009) that two separate constructions should be distinguished in what is generally taken to be a unitary possessor raising construction: in one the possessive clitic is base-generated externally to the DP expressing the possessee; in the other the clitic is base-generated internally to the possessee DP and is optionally extracted.

Second, we show that the only argument that can be extracted from Bulgarian DPs is the one corresponding to the structural subject, introduced by the preposition na. In particular, no other argument, including the direct and indirect objects also introduced by the preposition na, can be extracted.

Third, we argue that the only argument that can be extracted from a DP in Bulgarian, namely the argument corresponding to the syntactic subject of the DP, is *genitive* rather than *dative*. The argument rests on two considerations: i) the fact that the Case assigned to the subject of Bulgarian DPs is a structural Case (compatible with possessor, agent, experiencer, and theme theta-roles) as opposed to the Case assigned to object and indirect object arguments, which is an inherent Case, strictly related to a theme and a Goal theta-role, respectively (more generally, on the structural nature of the nominal genitive see de Witt 1997); ii) the fact that in languages (like Italian) which distinguish morphologically genitive arguments from dative arguments (*di* 'of' NP/*ne* 'of it_{CL}' vs. *a* 'to' NP/*gli* 'him'_{CL}) the argument that can extract from a DP is only the *di* 'of' NP/*ne* 'of it' subject genitive (CINQUE 1980, 2010);

Fourth, given that in the construction involving raising of the possessive clitic this too only corresponds to the subject of the DP, we conclude that the clitic is also genitive as only (subject) genitives can be extracted.

¹ We thank Anastasia Giannakidou, Catherine Rudin and two anonymous reviewers for their very helpful comments.

Since in the other construction in which the possessive clitic is merged outside of the DP a clear benefactive/malefactive interpretation is contributed by the 'possessive clitic', we surmise that the merge position of the clitic must be the one corresponding to the benefactive/malefactive dative.

We take up each of these steps in turn.

2 The two 'possessor raising' constructions of Bulgarian

In previous work (CINQUE & KRAPOVA 2009) we presented evidence that so-called *Possessor Raising* in Bulgarian is not a homogeneous construction and that two separate cases should be distinguished: the first type, which corresponds closely to what is usually labeled "possessor raising" in Romance, is a base generated construction in which the possessive clitic is merged externally to the DP expressing the possessee; the second type, which corresponds closely to the genitive *en/ne*-construction found in some Romance languages, is a movement construction in which the possessive clitic is merged DP-internally and only optionally undergoes raising to a clausal clitic position. The two types are illustrated in (1)a and b:

- (1) a. [Tja **mu** sčupi [**prăsta/stola**]] she him_{DAT} broke.3sg finger_DET/chair_DET 'She broke his finger/his head/his desire.'
 - b. [Az mu_j poznavam [prijatelkata/xaraktera/săčinenijata t_j]]
 I him_{DAT} know.1sg girlfriend_{DET}/character_{DET}/works_{DET}
 'I know his girlfriend/his character/his works.'

A number of interpretive properties distinguish the two constructions. The first one is confined to inalienable possession (and its extensions)² and is available only for predicates imposing a benefactive/malefactive interpretation (i.e., affecting positively or negatively the external possessor). The second one is compatible

² As noted in the literature (see, for example, Vergnaud & Zubizarreta 1992:597), inalienable possession extends to certain kinship terms and familiar objects ('daughter', 'home', 'car', 'umbrella', etc.), though variation exists among languages (and speakers) concerning the membership in the class of extended inalienables. To take one example, Italian ((i)a), but not French ((i)b), can apparently extend inalienable possession to (some) inanimate objects:

⁽i) a. Al tavolo, qualcuno ${f gli}$ ha segato tutte le gambe to.the table someone it ${f l}_{DAT}$ has sawn all the legs

with all sorts of possession (inalienable or not) and – more importantly – does not impose any benefactive/malefactive interpretation on the possessor.

Correlating with these interpretive differences there are several syntactic differences between the two constructions having to do, among other properties, with

- a) **Definiteness requirements**
- b) Idiomatic interpretations
- (Apparent) extractions out of PPs

2.1 Definiteness requirements

Consider first the definiteness restriction holding of DP-internal possessive clitics as illustrated in (2). As has been observed by a number of authors, the DP containing a possessive clitic must be definite, with the clitic following either a demonstrative or the element bearing the definite article (cf. Penčev 1998:30; DIMITROVA-VULCHANOVA & GIUSTI 1999:169; FRANKS 2000:59ff.; FRANKS & KING 2000:275, 282; Moskovsky 2004:221f.; Stateva 2002:660; Schürcks & Wun-DERLICH 2003:121):

(2) a. Tja sčupi [tozi/malkija/*edin **mu** prăst] she broke.3sg this/little_{DET}/one his finger 'She broke his little finger/this finger of his.'

b. Az poznavam [tazi/novata/*edna **mu** prijatelka] know.1sg this/new_{DET}/one his girlfriend 'I know his new girlfriend/this girlfriend of his/*a girlfriend of his.'

If both (1a) and (1b) were derived by raising of the possessive clitic from inside the DP, we would expect an identical definiteness effect in the DP-external 'variants'. However, while the construction in (3b), which, as suggested above, involves raising of the possessive clitic, is ungrammatical, arguably because the indefinite DP is an illicit input structure (cf. (2)), the absence of a such an effect in (3a) suggests that the clitic has not been raised from within the indefinite DP but is merged directly in a clausal clitic position and is presumably related to the

b. *La table, quelqu'un lui scié toutes les pattes it_{dat} table, someone has 'The table, someone has sawn off all its legs' (LAMIROY 2003:259 citing Leclère 1976) For further discussion, see LAMIROY (2003: sections 2.3 and 3).

DP expressing the inalienable body-part via a non movement mechanism. For concreteness, we adopt the analysis developed by Vergnaud and Zubizarreta (1992), according to which the binding relation between the inalienable phrase and the external possessor is regulated by Predication: ³

- (3) a. Tja mu ščupi [edin prăst] she \lim_{CL} broke.3s a finger 'She broke a finger of his.'
 - b. *Az mu poznavam [edna prijatelka]. I him_{CL} know a friend

As expected, the construction must obey strict locality requirements in order for the external possessive interpretation to obtain, namely a) the possessive clitic must locally c-command the inalienable phrase, and b) the two must appear in the same clause. See the following two examples whose ungrammaticality is due to a violation of the respective constraints:

- (3) c. *Glavata ne mu udari tavana.

 head_{DET} not him_{DAT·CL} hit.PAST.3sg ceiling_{DET}

 *His head did not hit the ceiling'
- vs. **Litseto** ne **mu** se viždaše
 Face_{DET} non him_{DAT.CL} refl saw._{PAST.}3sg
 '**His face** was not visible'
 - d. *Kaza mu se [če sa namerili čadăra]
 was.said him_{DAT} that are.3pl found umbrella_{DET}
 'It was said to him that they found the umbrella'/*'It was said that they found his umbrella'

2.2 Idiomatic interpretations

A second piece of evidence distinguishing the base generated case ((1a)) from the one involving movement ((1b)) is represented by idioms. As in Romance

³ Among the other non movement mechanisms proposed in the literature we mention (anaphoric) Binding by the possessive dative of the determiner of the DP expressing the body-part (GUÉRON 1985, DEMONTE 1988, among others), or of a pro subject of the DP expressing the body-part (AUTHIER 1988; ch. 4).

(where they can also be taken as evidence for the non movement nature of the corresponding construction), in Bulgarian there are idiomatic expressions with external possessive clitics which do not have a variant with a DP-internal clitic. Notably, such idioms contain benefactive/malefactive predicates, as evident from (4a) and (5a). Their respective DP-internal variants lack the idiomatic reading:⁴

(4) a. Ti **mi** xodiš po [nervite]

you medat walk.2sg on nerves of

lit. 'You are walking on my nerves.' ('You are getting on my nerves.')

- b. *Ti xodiš po [nervite mil you walk.2sg on nerves.DET my
- (5) a. Toj **ì** vidja smetkata na [rakijata]. he her saw $bill_{DET}$ of rakia_{DET} lit. 'He saw the rakia's bill' ('He drank the entire rakia')
 - b. *Toj vidja smetkata na [rakijata i]. He saw of rakia_{DET} her $bill_{DET}$

Such facts suggest that the two variants in (4) and those in (5) are not related to each other transformationally, i.e. the relation between the external possessive dative clitic and the inalienable phrase is not derived by movement.

Luc him_{dat}/her_{dat} breaks the feet

'Luc bothers him/her.'

Luc breaks his/her feet (no idiom interpretation available)

c. Luc en casse les pieds

Luc him_{gen} breaks the feet (no idiom interpretation available)

(ii) a. Gli hanno rotto le scatole

him_{DAT} they have broken the boxes

'They annoyed him.'

b. Hanno rotto le sue scatole

they have broken his boxes (no idiom interpretation available)

c. Ne hanno rotto le scatole

him_{GEN} they have broken the boxes (no idiom interpretation available)

⁴ Analogously, in Romance no variant exists with a possessive adjective internal to the DP, or with extraction of ne/en. See the French and Italian examples (i) and (ii) ((i)a-b are from LAMIROY 2003:260f., who notes the same facts also for Spanish and Dutch):

a. Luc lui casse les pieds

b. Luc casse ses pieds

2.3 (Apparent) extractions out of PPs

If this is true, then we expect that the DP may be found, like in the corresponding possessor constructions in Romance, ⁵ inside a PP, cf. (6), which is an island for extraction also in Bulgarian, as shown by (7):

- (6) a. Toj mi [PP v [DP uxoto]] izkrjaska he medat refl shouted.3sg in ear_{DFT} 'He shouted in my ear.'
 - b. Az i [PP v [DP litseto]] se izsmjax in $face_{DET}$ I her_{DAT} refl laughed.1sg 'I laughed in her face.'
- (7) *Na kogo govori [PP **săs** [DP zetia]] of whom spoke.2sg with son-in-law_{DFT} 'To whose son-in-law did you talk?'

The contrast between (6) and (8) below suggests that in (6) which contains a benefactive/malefactive predicate no extraction has taken place while it has in (8), which is ungrammatical because the clitic has been extracted from a PP island:

(8) a. *Az i mislja [PP za [DP očite __]] her_{DAT} think.1sg for eyes_{DET} 'I think of her eves.'

```
a. Gli
                hanno
                             urlato
                                       [pp ne[pp gli orecchi ]]
        him<sub>DAT</sub> have.3pl
                             shouted in the ears
                                                                        'They shouted in his ears.'
    b. *Di chi hanno
                            urlato
                                       [PP ne[DP gli orecchi ]]?
        of whom have.3pl shouted in the ears?
                                                       'Who was it that they shouted in his ears?'
                             medicato [pp gli orecchi]?
     c. Di chi hanno
                                      the ears?
                                                            'Of whom have they treated the ears?'
        of whom have.3pl treated
(ii) a. *Ne hanno
                                       [pp ne[pp gli orecchi ]]
                            urlato
                            shouted in the ears
        him<sub>GEN</sub> have.3pl
        '(intended meaning) They shouted in his ears'
        (cf. Hanno urlato nei <suoi> orecchi/negli orecchi<di Gianni>
        'They have shouted in <his> ears/in Gianni's ears)
                hanno
                            medicato [DP gli orecchi]
        him<sub>GEN</sub> have.3pl treated the ears
                                                                           'They treated his ears.'
```

⁵ See the analogous pattern in Italian based on observations in KAYNE (1977:159f.), indicating that no movement has taken place (cf. also CINQUE & KRAPOVA 2009: ex. (16)):

[PP ot [DP parite __]] b. *Az ne ti zavisja you_{DAT} depend.1sg not from money_{DFT} 'I don't depend on your money.'

Since both constituent types can feature an inalienably possessed DP, the crucial difference between them resides in the type of predicate – benefactive/malefactive predicates have the clitic merged in clausal position, while in the rest of the cases the clitic has raised from within the DP.

The conventional wisdom is that Bulgarian possessive clitics, whether DPinternal or DP external, are unambiguously dative. Possessive clitics coincide morphologically with indirect object clitics, a fact which according to many researchers (at least those that have not taken the formal identity for granted), can be interpreted either by assuming the presence of a Genitive-Dative case syncretism or by saving that the possessive and the indirect object are the same syntactic object, sharing the same set of formal features (cf. PANCHEVA 2004).

Although in CINQUE & KRAPOVA (2009) we made reference to the Romance genitive en/ne-extraction as an analog of the second, genuine, possessor raising construction of Bulgarian, we did not take a stand on the syntactic nature of the Case of the extractable DP-internal possessive clitic. Here we would like to argue that in spite of its morphological identity with the external base-generated clitic, the two clitics differ with regard to syntactic Case. In particular, we will provide evidence that the extractable internal clitic should be analyzed as genitive in opposition to the clitic merged externally, which should be analyzed as dative.

The evidence comes from general conditions on extractions from DP. As we will see in section 4, only na-phrases corresponding to the subject of the DP can be extracted in Bulgarian. As the Case borne by the extractable subject in those languages that distinguish morphologically genitive from dative, like Italian, is genitive, we take the na-phrase corresponding to the extractable subject in Bulgarian to also be genitive; a conjecture confirmed by the fact that na-phrases corresponding to an indirect object, plausibly assigned syntactic Dative, cannot extract. From this we further conclude that the corresponding clitic which is demonstrably extracted from the DP must also be genitive. The adnominal genitive appears to be a structural Case as it is compatible with different theta-roles (Possessor, Agent, Experiencer, Theme, but crucially not Goal, which is rendered by the inherent Case Dative).

In section 3, this state of affairs will be related to Benveniste's (1971) original insight that the adnominal genitive of deverbal nouns (in Latin) transposes the structural nominative and accusative, but not the oblique, Cases of the corresponding verbs.

Before we present this evidence, it is necessary to try and determine what counts as the syntactic subject of a DP for the different classes of nouns on independent grounds. We will do this in section 3. In this way, we will be able to check the predictions deriving from the hypotheses suggested above that only the DP subject can be rendered as a possessive clitic and that only the DP subject can be extracted, where the subject is unambiguously genitive. In particular, it will be shown that a careful examination of what counts as the syntactic or structural subject of each class of nouns will show the correctness of the hypothesis with respect to cases that otherwise could have been taken as counterexamples.

3 Singling out the subject of the Bulgarian DP

Following the classification proposed in CINQUE (1980), we list the 5 (basic) classes of nominals in Bulgarian according to the theta-role that can be said to correspond to the structural subject of the respective DPs. We will consider deverbal nominals with Agent/Experiencer and Theme theta-roles, typically ending in -ne, "result" nominals, typically ending in -(n)ie), as well as nominals with a single theta-role, such as "passive", intransitive and object denoting nominals. The basic idea behind Cinque's classification is to establish, for each class of nominals, which theta-role is assigned to the structural subject position. Taking at face value the structural correspondence between DPs and clauses (see CINQUE 1980, GIORGI and LONGOBARDI 1991, LONGOBARDI 2003), we need some way to diagnose subjecthood properties, especially if the nominal has a complex argument structure. (9) gives the two converging properties which appear to single out the structural subject of the DP in Bulgarian:

- (9) a. only subjects **can** be expressed by a possessive adjective (of the type *moj/moja/moe* 'my', *tvoj/tvoja/tvoe* 'your', *negov/negova/negovo* 'his', etc.).
 - b. only subjects **fail** to be expressed by a PP consisting of the preposition *na* 'of'+ *a tonic pronoun* (of the type *na mene* 'of me', *na tebe* 'of your', *na nego* 'of him', etc.)

The first property implies that possessive adjectives⁶ render unambiguously the DP subject. This property can be taken to follow from the hierarchy of nominal

⁶ In this paper, we abstract away from possessive adjectives based on proper names and kinship terms, which in Bulgarian take the *-ov* suffix, e.,g. *Rembrantov portret* 'Rembrandt's portrait', *Ivanovoto detstvo* 'Ivan's childhood'. Such adjectives are rarely used in the contemporary lan-

structural relations discussed by LONGOBARDI (2003: 563) (Possessor > Subject (external argument) > Object (internal argument)), which states that if the Possessor is not overtly present and the external argument is, only the latter (and not the internal argument) will be able to assume the form of a possessive adjective. When there is no Possessor and no argument is projected as the external argument (as with passive and unaccusative nominals), the argument merged as the internal argument may be possessivized (may act as subject).⁷ As we will see, Bulgarian behaves according to the predictions of this hierarchy, rather than to those of the Thematic hierarchy (Possessor > Agent > Experiencer > Theme).

The second property converges with the first in that it singles out exactly the same argument singled out as subject by the first property. The basis for this second diagnostic of subjecthood is arguably a Case conflict. In Bulgarian, tonic pronouns, but not ordinary DPs,8 have a morphologically distinct form for Nominative and non-Nominative: az ('1', Nominative) mene ('me' non-Nominative), ti ('you', Nominative), tebe ('you' non-Nominative), toj ('he', Nominative), nego ('him', non-Nominative), etc. Suppose, following CINQUE (2010), that DPs, like clauses, have Agr_s and Agr_o, which assign Nominative and Accusative Case, as they do in finite clauses, except that in Bulgarian DPs, as opposed to the Hungarian ones (Szabolcsi 1994), the lack of (subject and object) agreement requires the insertion of an additional Case marker, the preposition na 'of', which, as we will argue, assigns Genitive on top of the already assigned Nominative (and/or Accusative). This allows us to make sense of the curious prohibition against tonic pronouns in na + DP subjects. While with ordinary DPs, which are morphologically underspecified for the Nominative/non-Nominative distinction, no morphological Case conflict will arise in subject position (where both Nominative and Genitive are assigned), a Case conflict will arise with the tonic pronouns, which have two distinct morphological forms; this is because the morphologically Nominative form will be compatible with the Nominative assigned by Agr_s but not with the Genitive assigned by na, and the morphologically non-Nominative form will be compatible with the Genitive assigned by na but not with the Nominative assigned by Agr_s. In

guage. For a discussion of their argument structure, see DIMITROVA-VULCHANOVA and GIUSTI (1999).

⁷ This means that with apparently exceptional nominals like 'enjoyment', 'knowledge', 'perception', which cannot passivize even in the absence of an overt subject (the enjoyment of the play vs. *the play's enjoyment), there must be a silent one (PRO). Cf. your enjoyment of the play. For further discussion, see Anderson (1978), Cinque (1980, §2.3) and Longobardi (2003, 564).

⁸ Nouns have lost overt expression of morphological case, so there is a single form for Nominative and non-Nominative, while oblique cases are assigned by different prepositions.

other words, with tonic pronouns there is no morphological form which is compatible with the Cases assigned to the DP subject; whence the noted restriction.9

3.1 Classes of nouns

With the class of derived nominals that correspond to transitive verbs, three different subclasses need to be distinguished: obligatory passive nouns, nouns ambiguous between an active and a passive structure, and psych-nouns. For each class we will try to determine which theta-role is associated with the structural 'subject' position.

3.1.1 Obligatorily passive nouns

The first class, of obligatorily passive nouns, comprises derived nouns corresponding to (non-psych) transitive verbs in which the external argument is not in subject position. Such nominals typically end in -ne and are usually analyzed as process nouns with an event reading or as complex event nouns in GRIMSHAW's (1990) sense¹⁰ (RAPPAPORT 2000, DIMITROVA-VULCHANOVA & MITKOVSKA 2009, Popova 2006, Markova 2007). Some sample nouns are given in (10):

This apparent exception to the generalization just stated is understandable if possessors (to which no argument corresponds in the sentence, hence are not merged in an Agr_s) do not receive Nominative in addition to the Genitive assigned by na.

- 10 The complex event nominals in this class (typically although not exclusively ending in -ne, see Markova 2007: 90ff for exceptions) observe the restrictions pointed out in Grimshaw (1990): they cannot pluralize, (ia), or take indefinite determiners (ib), and can combine with modifiers like frequent, constant, intentional, (ic). Additionally, they are compatible with aspectual modifiers because of their event reading, (id):
- a. *zalavjanijata na vojnici. capturing-pl-the of soldiers 'the captures of soldiers'
 - b. *edno zalavjane na vojnitsi one capture of soldiers
 - c. čestoto prepisvane na izpiti frequent-the copying at exams 'the frequent copying at exams'

⁹ The sequence *na*+ tonic pronoun is grammatical only if it indicates the possessor (with optional clitic doubling):

apartamentăt (mu) xubav. na nego apartment_{DET} hiscr to him beautiful 'His apartment is beautiful'

(10) zalavjane 'capture', pečene 'baking', oprazvane 'emptying', prepisvane 'copying', uništoženie/uništožavane 'destruction', rešavane 'solving/solution', otkrivane 'discovering/ discovery', objasnjavane 'explaining/explanation'.

Following CINQUE (1980), we analyze the obligatory "object" reading with -ne nominals illustrated in (11), as due to "passivization", hence the label "passive nouns" (see also Dimitrova-Vulchanova & Giusti (1999), Dimitrova-Vulcha-NOVA & MITKOVSKA (2009)):

(11) zalavjaneto na kradetsa capture_{DET} of thief_{DET} 'the capture of the thief'

Passive nouns have Theme as their single argument, and given the diagnostics in (9a), this argument qualifies as 'subject' of the DP. Lack of Agent role is confirmed by the contrast in (12):

- (12) a. negovoto (=na kradetsa) zalavjane (ot polizijata) $(=of thief_{DFT})$ his capture (by police_{DET}) 'his capture'
 - b. *negovoto (=ot politsijata) zalavjane na kradetsa/na nego (=by police_{DET}) capture thief_{DET}/of him 'the capture of the thief/of him by the police'

Abstracting away from certain differences between passive nouns and passive clauses in general (see e.g., LONGOBARDI 2003: 565), we make the standard assumption that passive structures suppress the Agent role, as can be seen from the impossibility of realizing the Agent by way of a possessive adjective, (12b), with the consequence that the Theme is the single argument which can be associated with the 'subject' position. Crucially, the ungrammaticality of (12c) below, where a tonic pronoun replaces the PP na kradetsa 'of the thief', confirms that the Theme acts as the DP subject in accordance with the diagnostic in (9b):

d. prekăsvaneto na toka za tri časa interrupting DET of electricity for three hours See also fn. 12 below.

(12) c. *zalavjaneto na nego (=na kradetsa) (of thief_{DFT}) capture_{DFT} of him 'his capture'

Some passive -ne nominals, such as razdavane 'giving out', predstavjane 'introducing/introduction', vrăštane 'giving back' admit an additional Goal argument which in Bulgarian is also expressed as a na-DP, as indirect objects are both in DPs and in clauses. In (13a), for example, the second na-phrase renders this dative argument. As with other passive nominals, the Agent can only be expressed by an optional by-phrase and not as a possessive adjective, cf. (13b), which can only render the Theme argument, as seen from (13c). So in this respect Goal taking -nenominals behave like the other passive nouns.

(13) a. Razdavaneto na knigi na detsata (ot učitelite) e distribution_{DET} of books to children_{DET} (by teachers_{DET}) is zabraneno. forbidden

'The distribution of books to children by the teachers is forbidden.'

- b. *Tjaxnoto (=na učitelite) razdavane na knigi na detsata their_{DET} (=of teachers_{DET}) distribution of books to children_{DET} zabraneno.
 - forbidden

'Their distribution of books to the children is forbidden.'

c. Tjaxnoto (=na knigi) razdavane detsata zabraneno. na their_{DFT} (=of books) distribution to children_{DET} is forbidden 'Their distribution to the children is forbidden.'

Crucially the possessive adjective cannot render the prepositional object, ((14)a), which shows that the Goal argument cannot act as the DP subject. Additionally, the fact that the pronominal na-phrase na tjax 'of them/to them' cannot refer to the Theme, ((14c)) in contrast to (14b), confirms that the Theme, and not the Goal argument, is indeed the subject of the DP:

(14) a. *Tjaxnoto (=na detsata) razdavane na knigi e zabraneno. (to the children) distribution of books is forbidden 'Their distribution of books is forbidden.'

- b. Razdavaneto na knigi **na tiax** (a ne na nas) e nelepo.¹¹ distribution of books to them (and not to us) is absurd. 'The distribution of books to them (and not to us) is absurd.'
- c. *Razdavaneto **na tjax** (a ne na spisanijata) na detsata distributionDET of them (and not of magazines_{DET}) to children_{DET} zabraneno.
 - forbidden

'The distribution of them (= the books) (and not of the magazines) to children is forbidden.'

3.1.2 Ambiguous transitive nominals (active or passive)

The second class of deverbal nominals comprises what we call "ambiguous transitive nominals" ending in -(n)ie, such as those in (15), also labeled "Voice -ie nominals" by Markova (2007: 81f) in view of their derivation from past perfect participial verbal bases ending predominantly in -n and also in -t: 12

- razrušenijata na sgradite vs. *razrušavanijata na sgradite demolitions_{DET} of buildings_{DET} *demolishings_{DET} of buildings_{DET}
- (ii) edno opisanie/ izobretenie VS. *edno opisvane/izobretjavane one/a description/invention one/a describing/inventing 'one description/invention'
- (iii) a. *izobretenieto na samoleta za dve sedmitsi 'inventionDET of airplaneDET in two weeks vs. izobretjavaneto na samoleta za dve sedmitsi inventing_{DET} of airplane_{DET} in two weeks 'the invention of the airplane in two weeks time'
 - b. *razrušenieto na Sofia za kratko vreme *demolition_{DET} of Sofia in short time vs. razrušavaneto na Sofia za kratko vreme demolishing_{DET}/ of Sofia in short time 'the demolition of Sofia in a short time'

¹¹ The bracketed alternatives in (14b) and (14c) are meant to force the contrastive reading on the tonic pronoun in approximation of the natural use of tonic pronouns in the contemporary language.

¹² Although the difficult task of distinguishing -ne from -nie nominals remains outside of the scope of the present article, we just point out that -nie nominals, i.e. those that we take to represent simple event nouns, as opposed to complex event nouns, can in general pluralize (i); take indefinite determiners (ii); and are incompatible with aspectual modifiers, (iii):

(15) *opisanie* 'description', *izobretenie* 'invention', *objasnenie* 'explanation', *napadenie* 'invasion', *otkritie* 'discovery', etc.

The nominals in (15) are traditionally considered 'result nouns' in complementary distribution with the -ne nominals from the former class. However, at least some -nie nominals (presumably those lacking a -ne counterpart) have an event-related reading, and even though they may often lack the internal aspectual structure characteristic of complex event nouns, they are nevertheless compatible with a temporal predicate and/or a temporal adverbial. See (16):

- (16) a. Napadenieto na varvarite prodălži 5 dni invasion_{DET} of barbarians_{DET} lasted 5 days 'The barbarians' invasion lasted 5 days'
 - b. Narušenieto na pravilnika včera ot strana na Ivan mu donese 30 evro globa violation $_{\rm DET}$ of regulation $_{\rm DET}$ yesterday on ${\rm part}_{\rm DET}$ of Ivan brought him 30 Eu fine

'The violation of the driving regulations yesterday by Ivan brought him a thirty euros fine' (MARKOVA 2007, p.125)

A more detailed characterization of these nominals is provided in MARKOVA (2007: 120ff), who applies Grimshaw's diagnostics and divides "Voice -ie nominals" into simple event nouns and result (referential) nouns, with the possibility of ambiguous readings for one and the same nominal. Apart from (in)compatibility with temporal adverbials (compare (16b) with (17) below), the two subgroups also diverge in those semantic properties that usually distinguish events and results, e.g., the possibility for Agent-oriented adjectives, adverbial modification, and modification by *frequent*. (18) below shows that simple event nominals are compatible with Agent-oriented adjectives, as well as with the adjective *frequent*, see (18a,b), while result nominals are not, see (18a,b).

- (17) *izobretenieto na samoleta prez 19 v. invention_{DET} of airplane_{DET} in 19 century
- (18) a. *tselenasočenite izobretenija na novi domakinski uredi intentional_{DET} inventions of new household equipments

- varvarite13 a' uspešnite napadenija na Rim ot (strana na) successful invasions of Rome by (on the part of) Barbarians_{DET}
- b. *čestite izobretenija na novi sredstva za transport frequente_{DET} inventions of new means of transport
- b' čestite na Rim ot (strana na) napadenija varvarite of Rome by (on the part of) barbarians_{DET} invasions frequent

Although classificatory and semantic issues are beyond the scope of this article, we would like to point out that the distinctions briefly illustrated in (16)–(18) turn out to have consequences for the structural properties of the two classes. Simple event -(n)ie nouns typically appear in a transitive active configuration in which they simultaneously take a subject (Agent) and an object (Theme), (19). Result -(n) ie nouns, on the other hand, are passive nouns and may appear in a configuration such as (20), where the Theme argument functions as their subject, while the Agent is optionally expressed via a by-phrase. So nominals like 'description', which we use for illustration, are ambiguous between an active and a passive structure:14

- (19) opisanieto na našite prirodni krasoti (na Vazov) (Agent, Theme) description_{DET} of our_{DET} natural beauties (of Vazov) 'Vazov's description of our natural beauties'
- (20) opisanieto na našite prirodni krasoti (ot Vazov) (Theme) description_{DET} of our_{DET} natural beauties (by Vazov) 'the description of our natural beauties by Vazov'

¹³ We leave aside here the problem, mentioned in LONGOBARDI (2003: 566), that apart from English, in many other languages (Italian, German) the preposition introducing the expression of the Agent in nominal passives is different from the one used in verbal passives (in Bulgarian, ot strana na 'on the part of' rather than ot 'by'). We have no explanation for this fact.

¹⁴ The possibility of realizing a Theme and an Agent simultaneously with the same PP shows that they can also behave like picture nouns, which, as is well-known, license two (three, if we add a Possessor) genitival (prepositional) phrases in postnominal position (see (i)), unlike complex event nouns, which are passive (see (ii) containing a -ne nominal):

a. velikolepnata skulptura na Picasso na Veždi Rašidov (collectioner and sculptor) sculpture of Picasso na Veždi Rašidov (Agent, Possessor)

b. velikolepnata skulptura na Petăr Yovčev na Veždi Rašidov (Theme, Agent or Possessor) beautiful_{DET} sculpture of Peter Yovčev of Veždi Rašidov

⁽ii) *opisvaneto na našite prirodni krasoti na Vazov describing_{DET} of our_{DET} natural beauties of Vazov

The facts in (19) and (20) argue against taking the *na*-DPs as expressing inherent Genitive Case because the PPs express different thematic relations, and cannot both be adjacent to N.

Nevertheless, in prenominal position it is only the highest argument (i.e., Agent for *-nie* nominals and Agent or Possessor for picture nouns that can be rendered with a possessive adjective, which is the subject. The Theme/Object is necessarily expressed by a prepositional phrase in the lower (linearly postnominal) position:

- (22) a. negovoto (=na Vazov) opisanie na našite prirodni krasoti his_{DET} (=of Vazov) description of our_{DET} natural beauties
 - b. *tjaxnoto (=na našite prirodni krasoti) opisanie na Vazov¹⁵
 their_{DET} (=of our natural beauties) description of Vazov
 intended interpretation: 'the description of our natural beauties by Vazov'
- (23) a. negovata (=na Veždi Rašidov) velikolepna kartina na Picasso (Possessor, Agent)

his_{DET} (=of Veždi Rašidov) beautiful painting of Picasso

b. negovata (=na Picasso) velikolepna kartina na Veždi Rašidov (Agent, Theme)/(*Theme, Agent or Possessor))
 his_{DET} (=of Picasso) beautiful painting of Veždi Rašidov

Recall moreover that according to our diagnostic in (9b), DP subjects **fail** to be expressed by a pronominal PP (na 'of'+ a tonic pronoun). The ungrammaticality of (24), which is intended as an alternative to (22a) shows this to be precisely the case: irrespective of its exact position, the na-phrase of the Agent can never appear in the pronominal form:

(24) *<na nego> opisanieto na našite prirodni krasoti <na nego> <of him> description_{DET} of our natural beauties < of him>

Quite different is the syntax of the passive configuration exemplified for -(n)ienominals in (20) above. Recall that such nominals have a passive structure so that the Theme acts as their subject. It is therefore expected, on the basis of the diagnostics in (9), that only the possessive adjective alternative should be avail-

¹⁵ The sentence remains ungrammatical even if the Agent precedes the pronominal possessive. **16** This class of nominals cannot take a Dative argument and in that respect contrasts with the previous group of obligatory passives. Cf. (i) and (13a) in the text:

able, though not the alternative na+tonic pronoun. This is exactly what we find in (25) which we take as confirming evidence for a passive structure (Passive picture nouns not illustrated here behave alike):

- (25) a. tjaxnoto (=na našite prirodni krasoti) opisanie ot Vazov by Vazov (=of our natural beauties) description their 'their description by Vazov'
 - b. *opisanieto na tjax ot Vazov description_{DFT} of them by Vazov "the description of them by Vazov"

3.1.3 Nouns related to transitive psych verbs

Our third class comprises intransitive nominals like those in (26), which are derived from transitive psych verbs:

(26) omraza 'hate', želanie 'desire', spomen 'memory', obič 'love', etc.

(27) illustrates the properties of psych nominals, and by applying the diagnostics in (9) above, makes it clear that what qualifies as the DP subject is the Experiencer argument. In (27a), for example, the Experiencer realized by na Ivan can also be rendered by a possessive adjective, but not by a tonic pronoun in a PP introduced by na. Psych nouns can additionally take a Theme (or Subject Matter – Pesetsky 1995) introduced by a preposition different from na. See (27b). Such PPs can never be subjects of the psych DP. See (27c) where the Experiencer reading of tjaxnata 'their' is the only one available, i.e., psych nominals do not admit passivization:

- (27) a. omrazata na Ivan/negovata omraza/*na nego (Experiencer) hatred_{DET} of Ivan/his_{DET} hatred/of him 'his hatred'/'Ivan's hatred/his hatred'
 - ženite/*na ženite b. omrazata kăm (Theme/Subject Matter) hatred_{DET} for women_{DET}/of women_{DET} 'the hatred towards the women'

^{*}Objasnenieto na problema na detsata explanation-the of problem-the to children-the

c. tjaxnata (=na/*kăm ženite) omraza (Experiencer) their_DET hatred (=of/to women_DET) hatred 'their hatred'/*'the hatred towards them (=the women)'

3.1.4 Intransitive nouns

After having seen the three classes of nouns corresponding to transitive verbs, let us briefly illustrate the remaining cases which possess only a single argument corresponding to a different theta-role (Agent, Theme, Experiencer), depending on the subclass. The single argument inevitably qualifies as the subject (hence can be rendered by a possessive adjective but not by na+tonic pronoun). These nouns, whose classification rests entirely on their argument structure rather than on their event structure in Grimshaw's sense, include unaccusative nouns, (26), unergative nouns, (27), result nominals not ending in -(n)ie, (28), Agent nominalizations, ending productively in -tel and -nik, (29), and object denoting/referential nouns, (30). Apart from the latter category, which contains nouns which do not take arguments, but can take a Possessor, a quasi-argument, expressed by a na-phrase, all the other categories take one argument and thus qualify as complex or simple event nominals in Grimshaw's sense.

It should be noted that the classification suggested here only serves the goal of singling out the subject of each nominal subclass. For each subclass we give three test examples (one with na + DP, one with a possessive adjective and one with a na + t tonic pronoun):

3.1.4.1 Unaccusative nouns

Unaccusative nouns correspond to unaccusative verbs and have the Theme as their single argument. Even though such nominals have the suffix *-ne*, they are simple event nouns,¹⁷ and belong to the passive paradigm with their Theme argument acting as subject, as demonstrated by the following examples:

Judging from the example in (i) and (ii), it seems reasonable to classify unaccusative nouns as simple event nouns.

¹⁷ Such nominals fail all tests for complex event nominals, e.g. they can be pluralized and can take indefinite determiners:

⁽i) redovnite pătuvanija na săpruga mi ${\rm regular}_{\rm DET}\,{\rm trips}\;{\rm of}\;{\rm husband}_{\rm DET}$

^{&#}x27;My husband's regular trips

- (26) pristigane 'arrival', zaminavane 'departure', pojavjavane 'appearance', padane 'fall', zaboliavane 'illness', etc. 18
 - a. pristiganeto na vojnika (Theme) of soldier_{DET} arrival 'the arrival of the soldier'
 - b. negovoto pristigane his arrival 'his arrival'
 - c. *pristiganeto na nego arrivalDET of him 'the arrival of him' (*'his arrival')

3.1.4.2 Unergative nouns

Unergative nouns have an eventive nature and behave like simple deverbal nouns, not complex event nouns. Such nominals combine with an Agent theta-role and thus regularly permit to be replaced by a possessive adjective. Some examples are given below:

- (27) protest 'protest', reakcija 'reaction', obrăštenie 'appeal', etc.)¹⁹
 - a. protestăt na Ivan protest_{DFT} of Ivan 'Ivan's protest'
- (ii) edno moe pătuvane one mv trip 'one trip of mine'
- 18 Other suffix or zero suffix nominals such as pojava 'appearance', although synonymous in terms of eventive reading, belong to the class of unergatives:
- čestoto mu pojavjavane na živo po televizijata frequent_{DET} his appearance in live on TV 'his frequent live appearances on TV'
- pojavata na pravitelstvoto v Parlamenta (Cf. *pravitelstvenata pojava v Parlamenta) appearance_{DET} of government in Parliament (the government's appearance in Parliament) 'the appearance of the government in Parliament'

For a more general discussion of unaccusative (her "ergative") nominals, see GIORGI (1991).

- 19 Some of these nominals can also take a Dative (Goal) na-DP, as in (i):
- Pomnja nejnata reakcija na tazi novina remember-1sg her-the reaction to this news 'I remember her reaction to this news.'

- b. negovijat protest his protest 'his protest'
- c. *protestăt na nego protest_{DFT} of him 'the protest of him'

3.1.4.3 Result nominals

Result nominals in Bulgarian (for which see the discussion in Dimitrova-Vulchanova and Giusti 1999 and MARKOVA 2007) include pridobivka 'acquisition, purchase', postrojka 'construction' and result -ie nominals like pisanie 'writing', tvorenie 'creation', etc., whose single argument qualifying as subject can render an Agent or Possessor.

(28) a. novata pridobivka na semejstvoto new_{DET} purchase of family_{DET} 'the family's new purchase'

(Agent)

(intended: 'his protest')

- b. nejnata nova pridobivka her_{DET} new purchase 'her new purchase'
- c. *novata pridobivka na neja new_{DFT} purchase of her 'the new purchase of her' (intended: 'her new purchase')

3.1.4.4 Agent nominalizations

They are formed by way of a productive suffix, either *-tel*, or *-nik*, or *-ets*, which always refers to the external argument, i.e., the Agent of the verb it is attached to, although in certain cases it can also refer to an instrument or an experiencer (LEVIN and RAPPAPORT 1988, 1992). In Grimshaw's terms, it can be said that similarly to passives, the Agent theta-role is absorbed by the nominalizing suffix, giving rise to the meaning "the X who Vs". When derived from transitive verbs, Agent nominalizations require a Theme argument, which functions as the DP subject, as in (29). Otherwise, with intransitive sources, the nominalization does not project an argument, e.g., pisatel 'writer', rabotnik 'worker', etc.

- (29) pazitel 'keeper', spasitel 'savior', zaštitnik 'protector', poddrăžnik 'supporter', etc.
 - a. paziteljat na tajnite (Theme) keeper_{DET} of secrets_{DET} 'the secrets' keeper'
 - b. texniiat pazitel (=na tajnite) their keeper (of secrets_{DET}) 'their keeper'= the keeper of the secrets
 - c. *paziteljat na tjax keeper_{DFT} of them 'the keeper of them' (*intended 'their keeper')

3.1.4.5 Object denoting nouns

Object denoting nouns are illustrated in (30):

- (30) trud 'work', kniga 'book', kăšta 'house', kola 'car', etc.
 - a. trudăt/kolata na Ivan (Agent or Possessor) work_{DET}/car_{DET} of Ivan 'Ivan's work/car'
 - b. negovijat trud/negovata kola his_{DET} work/his_{DET} car 'his work/his car'
 - c. *trudăt na nego/?kolata na nego (cf. fn.9 above) work_{DET} of him/car_{DET} of him 'the work of him/the car of him' (*intended 'his work/his car')

3.1.4.6 Summary

After having established for each of the basic classes of nouns which arguments assigned a theta-role by the N qualify as its subject, we are now in a position to show i) that DP-internal possessive clitics can only correspond to the structural subject of the DP (sections 4 and 5) and ii) that only genitive DPs qualifying as subjects can be extracted from the DP in Bulgarian (section 6). These two conclusions coupled with the observation that possessive clitics can extract out of the DP will lead us to suggest that possessive clitics in Bulgarian DPs are also genitive.

4 DP-internal possessive clitics

In this section, we will consider DP-internal clitics. Their complementary distribution with possessive adjectives, which were used to diagnose the subject of the DP, is our crucial evidence that possessive clitics are another way of introducing DP subjects. Moreover, the fact that they cannot introduce any other DP argument (direct object, indirect object, etc.) confirms that clitics unambiguously express the subject of the DP.

Consider first the subclass of passive nominals that also take a Goal argument. The possessive clitic can only render the passive subject (Theme), but not the Goal argument (despite the fact that both are introduced by na). See the contrast in (31a) vs. (31b). Additionally, the ungrammaticality of (31c) shows that both intended readings are impossible: a) the one in which the possessive adjective renders the subject, while the clitic renders the Goal argument (Subject > Indirect Object), and b) the one in which the two arguments appear in the opposite order (Indirect Object > Subject):

- (31) a. Razdavaneto im na detsata (ot učitelite) distribution $_{DET}$ them $_{CL}$ to children $_{DET}$ (by teachers $_{DET}$) e zabraneno. (Theme) is forbidden 'Their distribution to the children (by the teachers) is forbidden.'
 - b. *Razdavaneto im na knigi (ot učitelite) distribution $_{DET}$ them $_{CL}$ of books (by teachers $_{DET}$) e zabraneno. (Goal) is forbidden 'The distribution of the books to them (by the teachers) is forbidden.'
 - c. *Tjaxnoto im razdavane (ot učitelite) e zabraneno. their $_{\rm DET}$ them $_{\rm CL}$ distribution (by teachers $_{\rm DET}$) is forbidden

With the class of nouns ambiguous between an active transitive and a passive configuration (3.1.2 above), the possessive clitic can again only be found to express the same argument that is rendered by a possessive adjective, namely the subject:²⁰

²⁰ Note that picture nouns behave in a similar way: *snimkata j na Maria 'photo_{DET} her of Maria' is ungrammatical under the interpretation "Maria (Agent) has taken a photo of her (Theme)".

- (32) a. opisanieto mu na novodošlata description_{DFT} him_{CI} of newcomer-fem_{DFT} 'his description of the newcomer'
 - b. *opisanieto i na Ivan description_{DET} her_{CL} of Ivan 'her description of Ivan' (intended interpretation: 'the newcomer's description by Ivan')
 - c. *negovoto j opisanie his_{DET} her_{CL} description

With the class of psych-nominals like *omraza* 'hatred' (see 3.1.3 above), which we saw take only an Experiencer as their subject, this, and no other argument, can be rendered as a possessive clitic:

```
(33) omrazata
                                            ženite)
                       mu
                               (kăm
                                                                                     (Experiencer)
     hatred<sub>DFT</sub>
                      his<sub>CI</sub> (towards women<sub>DFT</sub>)
     'his hatred for women'
```

With the class of obligatorily passive nouns which do not take a Goal argument of the type of zalavjane 'capture' (cf. § 3.1.1 above), only the Theme qualifies as the structural subject and it is precisely the Theme which can also be expressed by a possessive clitic (as well as by a possessive adjective and a *na*-phrase):

```
(34) zalavjaneto mu
                              (ot vraga)
                                                                                       (Theme)
                     him_{CI} (by enemy<sub>DFT</sub>)
    capture<sub>DFT</sub>
    'his capture (by the enemy)'
```

The examples from (35) to (39) illustrate the remaining classes of nouns that have a single argument qualifying as the syntactic subject of the DP, which can thus be rendered as a possessive clitic:

```
(35) pristiganeto mu
                                                                       (Unaccusative nouns)
    arrival<sub>DET</sub>
                     him_{CL}
    'his arrival'
```

```
(36) a. reakciata
                                                                             (Unergative nouns)
                         mu
                                   na săbitieto
        reaction<sub>DET</sub> him<sub>CI</sub> to event<sub>DET</sub>
        'his reaction to the event'
```

b. *reakciata mu na Ivan reaction_{DFT} it_{CI} of Ivan 'Ivan's reaction to it'

(37) pridobivkata mu purchase_{DET} him_{CL} 'his purchase'

(Result nominals)

(38) paziteliat keeper_{DET} themci

'their keeper'

(39) a. trudăt mu/kolata mu work_{DET} him_{CI}/car_{DFT} him_{CI} 'his work/his car'

(Object denoting nouns)

(Agent nominalizations)

What Case does the DP-internal possessive clitic have? As anticipated earlier, we are claiming, differently from a number of other authors (see in particular PANCHEVA 2004 for a more explicit formulation of the hypothesis of the dative "essence" of the possessive clitic), that the DP-internal possessive clitic bears genitive Case. The reason that leads us to this conclusion rests on the well-known fact discussed in Benveniste (1966) on the basis of Latin, that the structural Cases Nominative and Accusative of the clause are rendered in the corresponding deverbal nouns by the Genitive Case. This case is arguably structural in that it is independent of the particular theta-role assigned to the DP bearing it. Crucially, the nominal Genitive cannot render any other Case (i.e., inherent Cases, such as the Dative).21

- a. das Theater zu verkaufen to sell the theater
 - b. Verkaufen des Theaters (the) selling the GEN theater GEN
- (ii) a. der Zug abfährt the_{NOM} train is leaving
 - b. die Abfahrt des Zuges the departure the GEN train
- (iii) a. helfen dem Initiator to help the DAT initiator
 - b. (zur) Hilfe dem/*des Initiator (in) help the DAT/the GEN initiator

²¹ The same can be seen in German:

- (40)a. neglegentia religionis (cf. neglegere religionem)²² Negligence religion-Gen (ignore religion-Acc)
 - b. adventus consulis (cf. consul advenit)²³ arrival consul-Gen (consul-Nom arrives)

This is also true of Bulgarian. DPs with an internal clitic are perfectly uniform in that the clitic can render any theta-role apart from Goal (cf. (31b) above), and its appearance inside the DP is independent of factors like animacy of the possessor, type of possession (inalienable or not), and semantic type of the head noun (simple or complex events, results, etc.). This cluster of properties we take to be revealing for the presence of structural Genitive arguments.²⁴ Additionally, Franks & King (2000) note that possessive clitics "can never correspond to true Datives. That is, in [(41)], although the base verbs from which these deverbal nouns are derived take dative complements, expressible as dative clitics or full *na*-phrases, the clitic *mu* cannot be interpreted in this function:

(41) a. vlijanieto mu influencing_{DFT} him_{CI} 'his influencing'/*'the influencing to him' Cf. vlijaja na Ivan/mu influence-1sg to Ivan/him_{CI} 'I influence Ivan/him'

*Pristiganeto e na gostite arrival_{DET} is of guests_{DET} "The arrival is of the guests"

(ii) *Predavaneto e na cauzata "The betrayal is of the cause" betrayal_{DET} is of cause_{DET}

(iii) *Omrazata e na Ivan hatred_{DET} is of Ivan *'The hatred is of Ivan'

(iv) Knigata e na Ivan book_{DET} is of Ivan 'The book is John's'

^{22 &}quot;...la fonction du génitif est de transposer en dépendance nominale la relation d'un accusative régime d'un verbe transitif. C'est donc un genitive de transposition..." (BENVENISTE 1966:146). 23 "Or, cette fois la forme casuelle transposée en génitif n'est plus un accusatif, mais un nominatif.." (BENVENISTE 1966:147).

²⁴ According to GRIMSHAW'S (1990) diagnostics, arguments (complements) cannot appear after a copula; only modifiers can. From this point of view indisputable Possessors behave like modifiers, while all other instances of DP internal clitics, which we take to correspond to argumental Genitives, cannot occur after the copula:

b. objasnenieto m11²⁵ explanation_{DFF} himc 'his explanation'/'its explanation'/*'the explanation to him'

Instead, mu can only correspond to the subject argument in [(41a)] and to the [...] direct object argument in [(41b)]" (p.276f.).²⁶ (42) below gives more examples of the same kind:

Cf. Obiasniavam na Ivan/mu explain-1sg to Ivan/him_{CL}

- (42) a. pomaganeto mu/pomoštta mu helping_{DET} him_{CL}/help_{DET} him_{CI} 'his helping/*the helping to him' Cf. pomagam na Ivan/mu help-1sg to Ivan/him_{CI}
 - b. pisaneto mu writing_{DFT} him_{CL} 'his writing/*the writing to him' Cf. piša na Ivan/mu write-1sg to Ivan/him_{CI}

That mu cannot correspond to an object argument becomes clear if we attempt to substitute mu for something which is unambiguously an object, like na problema in (ia). See (ii):

(ii) a. *negovoto mu objasnenie his_{DET} of-it (= of the problem) explanation 'his explanation of it'

b. *na Ivan objasnenieto of Ivan explanation_{DET} of-it (=of the problem) 'Ivan's explanation of it'

²⁵ For expository reasons, we have substituted Franks and King's noun objasnjavaneto 'explaining' with objasnenieto 'explanation'.

²⁶ We differ here from Franks & King (2000) in taking mu 'his' to stand for a subject also in the apparent object reading of (41b). Objasnenie 'explanation' belongs to our second class of nouns corresponding to transitive verbs, which, as shown in section 3. above, have both active and passive usages:

a. negovoto objasnenie problema na his_{DET} (=of Ivan) explanation $problem_{DET}$ b. negovoto objasnenie ot Ivan his_{DET} (=of the problem) explanation by Ivan

c. predstavjaneto mu introducing himcr 'his introduction/*the introduction to him' Cf. predstavjam Marija na Ivan/predstavjam mu Marija Introduce-1sg Maria to Ivan/introduce him_{CI} Maria

The impossibility of interpreting the DP internal possessive clitic (mu 'him') as a dative argument is, it seems to us, hard to understand if it were a true dative clitic, i.e. valued dative. If however, it is a genitive clitic, this restriction can be made sense of, given that in each case it stands for the DP subject, a prerogative of genitive arguments only. Additional confirmation for our conclusion that DP subjects and objects have structural genitive case comes from the fact that while na-phrases in clausal environments only express a Goal indirect object (inherent Dative) and no other grammatical function, in nominal environments, as seen in section 2., they may express, in addition to the indirect object, the grammatical functions of subject and object (e.g., razdavaneto na knigi na detsata 'distribution of books to the children', pristiganeto na konsula 'the arrival of the consul'), much like the genitive in the Latin DP seen in (40) above. This shows that DP internal na-phrases are ambiguous between genitive and dative arguments, as opposed to DP internal (possessive) clitics which may correspond to the former, though not to the latter. In other words, possessive clitics can appear in a subset of the environments where na-phrases can appear.

Now if possessive clitics are genitive and DP-internal subjects and objects are also genitive, as we argue on the basis of Benveniste's idea, it may seem surprising at first sight that DP (possessive) clitics may only express the subject but not the object. We therefore need to understand why DP-internal possessive clitics can express only the subject. We elaborate on this in the next section, returning later to the ambiguity of the clitic in terms of morphological case in nominal vs. clausal environments.

5 Why DP-internal possessive clitics are subjects only?

The first crucial observation is that DP-internal possessive clitics are "second position" clitics: they appear to occupy a head position immediately below the DP projection, as can be seen from the fact that the clitic follows the demonstrative or whichever element ends up in DP bearing the definite article (see Penčev 1993; DIMITROVA-VULCHANOVA & GIUSTI 1999:169f.; FRANKS 2000:59ff.; FRANKS &

King 2000:275; Stateva 2002:660; Schürcks & Wunderlich 2003:121, Harizanov 2011).

The clitic's "second position" is thus higher than the Merge position of subject and object. For concreteness, we will follow Sportiche's 1996 analysis of clitics as directly merged in CIP and attracting a null DP to their specifier from one of the arguments positions subject, object, etc. This has as a consequence that only a subject can be attracted. If it were the object (direct or indirect) to be attracted to the specifier of the clitic, a Relativized Minimality violation would ensue (RIZZI 1990, 2004), since the object would cross over the subject, both of which are A-positions.²⁷

(46)
$$[_{DP}$$
 tova/mnogo točnoto/etc. $[_{D}[_{CIP}[_{CI}$ mu $]$... $DP_{subj}[_{NP}$ opisanie $DP_{obj}]$

Relativized Minimality provides an account of another property of Bulgarian DPs, namely a curious restriction involving the DP edge (CHOMSKY 2008). As we see from (47) Bulgarian allows argument fronting to the absolute initial position of the DP.

(47) Na Ivan vsički tezi opisanija na prijatelite mu of Ivan all these descriptions of friends $_{DET}$ his 'All of these descriptions of his friends of Ivan's'

This can be seen by the fact that in (47) the *na*-phrase precedes all strong determiners (the universal quantifier and the demonstrative, as well as other alternative possible occupants of Spec,DP). This position has been occasionally claimed to be an A'-position (see e.g. DIMITROVA-VULCHANOVA & GIUSTI 1999) but we argue that it is in fact an A-position, given that of all arguments and adjuncts of the DP only what qualifies as the subject can move to that position. As (48) shows, of all the arguments and adjuncts – subcategorized PPs, (48a), adjunct PPs (48b),

²⁷ We take the Spec of CIP to also be an A position, as Clitic movement behaves like A-movement rather than A-bar-movement with respect to reconstruction: [mangiato t_i] non l_i'ho 'eaten not it I have', [mangiato t_i] pro_i non è stato 'eaten (it) not has been' vs. *[mangiato t_i] che cosa_i hai? 'eaten what do you have?'

indirect object na-phrases (48c), direct object na-phrases (48d) and subject naphrases (48e) – only the subject na-phrase can be fronted:

- (48)a. *Žurnalistăt razkritikuva [[za tazi kniga] obštoprietoto mnenie t]. journalist_{DFT} criticized-3sg for this book common_{DFT} opinion 'The journalist criticized the common opinion of this book.'
 - b. *Direktorăt razkritikuva [[văv vestnika] statijata na žurnalista t] director_{DET} criticized-3sg in newspaper_{DET} article_{DET} of journalist_{DET} 'The director criticized the journalist's article in the newspaper.'
 - c. *Učitelite razkritikuvaxa [[na detsata] razdavaneto na knigi t (ot sponsorite)] teachers_{DET}criticized-3pl to children_{DET} distribution_{DET} of books (by sponsors_{DET})
 - 'The teachers criticized the distribution of books to children by the sponsors.'
 - d. **Direktorăt na spisanieto razkritikuva [[na săbitieto] negovoto opisanie t] director_{DET} of journal_{DET} criticized-3sg of event_{DET} his description 'The director of the magazine criticized his description of the event.'
 - e. Az razkritikuvax [[na Ivan] opisanieto na kăštata tl. description_{DET} of house_{DET} I criticized-1sg of Ivan 'I criticized Ivan's description of the house.'

Once again, this curious restriction is attributable to Relativized Minimality if the edge of DP is an A-position. If it were an A'-position, we could expect any argument or adjunct to be able to front, much like Topics of various sorts and Focus phrases can front to the left periphery of the clause crossing over the subject (cf. Rudin 1986, 1994, Izvorski 1993, Lambova 2001, Krapova & Karastaneva 2002, Krapova 2002, Arnaudova 2003/2010, among others). See the examples in (49) which illustrate the clause-initial position of (operator) Topics and (operator) Focus:

- (49)a. Po tozi văpros Ivan ništo (Topic) ne kaza. for this matter Ivan nothing not said-3sg 'On this matter, John said nothing.'
 - (Topic to the left of *wh*-) b. Ivan kakvo misli po văprosa? Ivan what thinks on question_{DET} 'John, what does he think of this issue?'

c. VĂV VESTNIKA pročetox tazi statija. (Left peripheral/Identification Focus) in newspaper_{DET} read-1sg this article 'It was in the newspaper that I read this article.'

6 Extraction out of DP in Bulgarian

Having established, in section 3, for each class of Ns which na-phrase counts as the subject, we are now in a position to check the correctness of the generalization that of all DP-internal arguments and adjuncts only the *na*-phrase that corresponds to the subject of the entire DP can be extracted and that this bears genitive case as subjects bear genitive Case and only subjects can be extracted.

More precisely, we will show that:

- a) Arguments and adjuncts introduced by a preposition different from *na* cannot be extracted:
- b) Na-phrases which are demonstrably dative cannot be extracted;
- c) Genitive *na*-phrases corresponding to the object cannot be extracted.

The joint working of these three factors leave na-phrases corresponding to the subject as the only elements that can be extracted.

We illustrate each of these cases in turn.

The following three pairs of examples (50)–(52) show that no arguments or adjuncts other than na-phrases can be extracted:

- (50)a. [DP obštoprietoto mnenie **za** tazi kniga common_{DET} opinion about this book 'the common opinion about this book'
 - b. *Tova e knigata, [za kojato], ne pomnja [DP] obštoprietoto mnenie [TP]this is the book about which I don't remember the common opinion
- (51) a. [DP razdraznenieto na Peter **ot Ivan**] irritation_{DET} of Peter by Ivan 'Ivan's irritation of Peter by Ivan'
 - b. *Ivan, [ot kojto]; ne pomnja $[_{DP}$ razdraznenieto na Peter t_i] Ivan, by whom I don't remember the irritation of Peter

- (52) a. [DP masovoto obrăštane **kăm religijata** po vreme na săbitijata] conversion to religion_{DFT} during of events_{DFT} mass_{DFT} 'the massive conversion to religion during the events'
 - b. *Religijata, [kăm kojato], si spomnjam [DP masovoto religion_{DET}, to which refl remember-1sg mass_{DFT} obrăštane t_i po vreme na săbitijata] conversion during of events_{DET}

The following three pairs of examples (53)–(55) illustrate that extraction of dative na-phrases with the various types of nominals discussed above produces an ungrammatical result:

- (53) a. [DP objasnjavaneto na teoremi na studentite] explaining_{DET} of theorems to students_{DET} 'the explanation of theorems to the students'
 - b. *Tova sa studentite, [na koito], ne odobrix [DP objasnjavaneto these are students_{DET} to whom not approved-1sg explaining_{DET} na teoremi t_i] of theorems
- (54) a. [DP razdavaneto na nagradi na detsata] of awards to children DET giving_{DFT} 'the distribution of awards to the children'
 - b. *Tova sa detsata, [na koito]; pomnja [razdavaneto na nagradi t_i] these are children_{DET} to whom remember-1sg the giving of awards
- (55) a. [DP nejnata reakcia na novinatal herDET reaction to news_{DFT} 'her reaction to the news'
 - b. *Tova e novinata, [na kojato]_i ne pomnja [nejnata reakcia t_i] this is news_{DET} to which not remember-1sg her_{DET} reaction

The following examples (56)–(57) show that extraction of genitive na-phrases corresponding to the syntactic object of the DP is ungrammatical:

(56) a. [DP negovoto opisanie na apartamenta his description of apartment_{DET} 'his description of the apartment'

- b. *apartamenta, [na kojto], ne pomnja [DP negovoto opisanie t_i] apartment of which not remember-1sg his_{DFT} description
- (57) a. [DP negovoto objasnenie na problema] explanation of problem_{DFT} his 'his explanation of the problem'
 - b. *problema, [na kojto], ti razkazax [DP negovoto objasnenie ti] you_{DAT} told-1sg problem_{DET} of which his explanation

This leaves only subject *na*-phrases as possible extractees.

Recall that for the various nominal classes considered different theta-roles qualify as subjects. For the class of psych nouns, we concluded, on the basis of the possessivization test, that the subject is the Experiencer, and indeed the Experiencer *na*-phrase can be extracted:

(58) a. măžăt, [na kojto]; šte pomnja vinagi [DP želanijata t_i]²⁸ man_{DET}, of whom will remember.1sg always desires_{DET} lit. 'The man of whom I will always remember the desires' 'the man, whose desires I will always remember'

For the class of obligatory passive nominals, we concluded that the subject is the Theme, and indeed this can be extracted:

(59) ?prestăpnika, [na kojto]_i gledax [_{DP} arestuvaneto t_i] po televizijata criminal_{DET} of whom watched-1sg arrest_{DET} on TV_{DET} lit, 'the criminal of whom I watched the arrest on TV...' 'the criminal whose arrest I watched on TV'

For the class comprising nominals ambiguous between an active and a passive reading (e.g., objasnenie 'explanation', rešenie 'solution', opisanie 'description', etc.), the subject of the active variant is the Agent, while the subject of the passive variant is the Theme. Once these two variants are unambiguously isolated (in the presence of an object and of a 'by'-phrase, respectively), we find that what qualifies as the subject can indeed be extracted:

²⁸ There is an alternative way of expressing the genitive which does not involve extraction (namely, with *čijto/čijato/ čieto* 'whose', which pied pipes the containing DP).

- (60)a. profesorăt, [na kojto]_i toku-što čuxme [DP interesnoto objasnenie na problema t_i l...
 - professor_{DET}, of whom just now heard-we interesting_{DET} explanation of problem
 - lit. 'the professor, of whom we have just listened to the interesting explanation of the problem.'
 - 'the professor whose interesting explanation of the problem we have just listened to'
 - b. problema, [na kojto] toku-što čuxme interesnoto objasnenie (ot profesora)...
 - problem_{DET}, of which just now heard-we interesting_{DET} explanation (by professor_{DFT}),...
 - lit. 'the problem, of which we just heard the interesting explanation (by the professor)...'
- (61) a. pisateljat, [na kojto]_i vsički sme čeli [prekrasnite opisanija na prirodata t_i] writer_{DET}, of whom all have read beautiful_{DET} descriptions of nature_{DET} lit. 'the writer, of whom we have all read the beautiful descriptions of nature'
 - 'the writer whose beautiful descriptions of nature we have all read'
 - b. prirodata, [na kojato], vsički pomnin onova prekrasno opisanie t, (napraveno ot pisatelia)29
 - nature, of which all remember-1pl that beautiful description (made by writer_{DFT})
 - lit. 'the nature, of which we all remember that beautiful description (made by the writer)...
 - 'the nature whose beautiful description (made by the writer) we all remember'

For the other classes of nominals, i.e., those which possess a single possessivizable argument (unaccusatives, unergatives, etc.), it is this argument that qualifies as the subject. As expected, extraction is possible. See (62):

²⁹ If we did not have independent evidence that in *opisanijata na prirodata* 'the description of the nature', na prirodata 'of the nature' is the (passive) subject of the DP in (61)b, we could erroneously conclude that objects can extract.

- (62) a. [Na koj]_i propusnaxte oficialnoto pristigane t_i? of whom missed-2pl official_{DET} arrival 'Whose official arrival did you miss?'
 - b. Učenijat, [na kojto]_i ne pomnja poslednoto otkritie t_i scientist_{DET}, of whom not remember-1sg last_{DET} discovery 'the scientist, whose last discovery I don't remember'
 - c. măžăt, $[na\ kojto]_i\ v$ sički vidjaxme neočakvanija spasitel t_i man_{DET} , of whom all saw unexpected $_{DET}$ savior 'the man whose unexpected savior we all saw'

This conclusion supports the idea that those clausal possessive clitics which are demonstrably extracted from a DP (the real possessor raising construction discussed above) must also be syntactically genitive. Not only because their DP-internal source is arguably assigned structural genitive, but also because the only elements that can be extracted from DP are genitive phrases.

Relying on comparative and historical data, PANCHEVA (2004) argues that Bulgarian possessive clitics have dative case features in syntax and are consequently the same formal entities as clausal indirect object clitics. For the purposes of the reconstruction of the historical evolution of the Bulgarian dative clitics, this conclusion amounts to saying that the identity of their morpho-phonological form (not only in Bulgarian but also in Balkan Slavic and in Romanian) is due to the featural identity of indirect object and possessive clitics both of which bear dative case. In other words, according to Pancheva, no genitive-dative syncretism has taken place in the history of the language; rather the possessive genitive clitics of the earliest written records of the language have been replaced by possessive clitics bearing dative case. Among the arguments that PANCHEVA (2004) adduces, she relies on "Possessor Raising" to show that 1) DP-external possessive clitics have the same distribution as indirect object clitics in all of these languages, and 2) the "raised" possessive clitics have the same prosodic/phonological behavior as clausal clitics.

However, dative (indirect object) and genitive (possessive) clitics are not identical in formal features. We have also seen arguments that they cannot be both dative in syntax, since at least in DPs, clitics bear structural genitive and can never correspond to inherent datives. If they had identical formal features, we would expect them to have the same distribution as clausal clitics. Pancheva has not considered the possibility that the so-called Possessor Raising in fact corresponds to two distinct constructions, only one of which can be taken to involve dative clitics, namely the construction imposing benefactive/malefactive interpretation on the inalienable possessor. If anything, the evidence presented in

CINQUE & KRAPOVA (2009) and in this paper, leads us to adopt the second possible scenario that Pancheva herself envisages theoretically, namely clausal indirect object clitics and possessive clitics have "distinct case features, [but are] realized by a single form because of homophony of the two exponents or because of complete underspecification for case of the single exponent" (PANCHEVA 2004:183). Our findings thus support PANCHEVA's alternative hypothesis, i.e., the traditional idea that the morpho-phonological identity of dative and genitive features is due to a Case syncretism.³⁰ The identical prosodic/phonological behavior of clausal and possessive clitics would then be due to the fact that the clitic cluster is blind to deeper functional differences and treats syncretic categories as a unique exponent.

The exact mechanism of Case assignment we leave for future work, but it looks attractive to suppose, following CORNILESCU (1995), who in turn follows GROSU (1988), that, similarly to Romanian, in Bulgarian the DP internal genitive Case is assigned/checked by the possessive clitic against the definite article adjoined to the noun. This will not only explain the second position restriction noted above but will also explain the need for a genitive preposition, i.e. na, when the noun is underspecified for Case, as are all nouns. We also leave for future work the exact positions where genitive clitics raise in the Possessor raising construction. It looks plausible however to suppose that there is an Agr projection hosting genitive clitics raised from inside the DP, and a different position for indirect object or other dative arguments. In particular, clausal clitics can be valued Dative when they correspond to an argument directly merged in a clausal position which we label DativeP (although a more precise characterization might involve two different clausal positions – the DativeP and the Benefactive/MalefactiveP; see Schweikert 2005). Alternatively, they can be valued genitive if their surface position in the clause is derived by movement from inside the DP where they are initially merged as invariably genitive.

7 Conclusions

To summarize, we have argued that there is no one-to-one correspondence between Case features and morphological form, at least as far as a subset of Bulgarian clitics are concerned.

³⁰ It is plausible to assume, following CAHA (2009), that Case syncretism is only available for contiguous Cases on the Case hierarchy (Nominative > Accusative > Genitive > Dative > etc.).

Among the different types of evidence we have discussed to distinguish a Genitive from a Dative Case in Bulgarian, in spite of their morphonological syncretism, is the fact that DP-internal clitics because of their strict correspondence to subject genitive *na*-DPs must also be genitive.

We showed that wh-extraction out of a DP is available only for na-DPs corresponding to subjects. If these phrases were dative, we would expect na-DPs corresponding to a Dative (Goal) argument to also be extractable. However, we saw from Bulgarian that such na-phrases cannot extracted. So it would remain unclear why those *na*-phrases that can also be rendered by clitics can be extracted, while others cannot. We can make sense of this option if there is a morphological neutralization between Genitive and Dative cases, where subject and object arguments are Genitive and indirect object arguments are Dative. We have also argued that inside the DP, Genitive is a structural Case wherever it corresponds to Nominative and/or Accusative of the corresponding clause. Following CINQUE (2010), we suggested that this Case is assigned/checked by the (semantically vacuous) preposition na.

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