

# Ukrainian regional oikonymy: Modern state and perspectives

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**Abstract:** The article presents a review of Ukrainian regional oikonymy by examining the stages of its development as a subject, and reviewing contemporary analytical approaches. Attention is focused on the 1960s and 1970s, the period of the twentieth century that is the most prolific for the development of Ukrainian onomastics in general, and oikonymy (i.e. the study of settlement names) in particular. The next stage (1980s-present) is marked by a considerable increase in onomastic analysis of place names from different linguistic perspectives: a) etymological, b) synchronic and diachronic, c) lexico-semantic, d) structural and derivational, considering phonetic and morphological characteristics of oikonyms.

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The perspective of further linguistic studies allows a better understanding of processes of oikonym formation in diachrony (etymological, comparative historical, and stratigraphic approaches), and also illuminates modern tendencies in oikonyms coined both in Ukraine and the Slavic world.

**Keywords:** Etymology, comparative historical analysis, regional analysis, derivational model, Ukrainian oikonymy.

### **Oikonymie régionale ukrainienne : situation actuelle et perspectives**

**Résumé :** Dans l'article, les auteurs font un aperçu de l'oikonymie régionale ukrainienne du point de vue des étapes de sa formation et des approches contemporaines de l'analyse par les scientifiques de ce champ d'études onomastiques. Une attention particulière est dédiée à la période des années 60–70 du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle, considérée comme la plus favorable pour le développement de l'onomastique ukrainienne en général et de l'oikonymie en particulier. L'étape suivante (du dernier tiers du XX<sup>e</sup> siècle aux années 20 du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle) a été marquée par un grand intérêt des chercheurs de l'onomastique pour l'analyse des noms de localités sur différents niveaux de la langue, à savoir: a) niveau étymologique, b) niveaux synchronique et diachronique, c) niveau lexico-sémantique, d) niveau structurel, e) niveau de formation des mots, en tenant compte des caractéristiques phonétiques et morphologiques des oikonymes.

La perspective des recherches ultérieures à travers les régions permettra de comprendre mieux les processus de formation du système diachronique des oikonymes (approches étymologiques, comparatives et historiques, stratigraphiques) ainsi que de voir les tendances contemporaines de la formation des onymes de ce type dans toute la Slavie et en Ukraine à la fois.

**Mots-clés :** Étymologie, analyse historique comparative, analyse régionale, modèle de formation des mots, oikonymie ukrainienne.

### **Ukrainische regionale Oikonymie: aktueller Stand und aussichten**

**Zusammenfassung:** Im vorliegenden Beitrag bieten die Autoren einen umfassenden Überblick über die ukrainische regionale Oikonymie im Hinblick auf ihre Entwicklungsstadien sowie moderne Ansätze zur Analyse dieser onomastischen Sphäre. Im Fokus stehen die sechziger und siebziger Jahre des 20. Jahrhunderts, die als die fruchtbarste Periode für die Entwicklung der ukrainischen Onomastik allgemein und insbesondere der Ortsnamenforschung galten. Die nächste Phase (vom letzten Drittel des 20. Jahrhunderts bis in die Gegenwart) war durch eine deutliche Zunahme des Interesses der Onomastik an der Analyse von Siedlungsnamen auf verschiedenen sprachlichen Ebenen gekennzeichnet: a) etymologisch, b) synchron-diachronisch, c) lexikalisch-semantisch, d) strukturell-wortbildend unter Berücksichtigung der phonetischen und morphologischen Merkmale von Oikonymen.

Die Perspektive weiterer regional ausgerichteter Forschungen wird es ermöglichen, sowohl die Prozesse der Bildung des oikonymischen Systems in der Diachronie (etymologische, vergleichend-historische, stratigraphische Ansätze), als auch moderne Trends bei der Benennung von Synonymen dieser Klasse in der Ukraine wie in der gesamten Slavia besser zu verstehen.

**Schlüsselbegriffe:** Etymologie, vergleichend-historische Analyse, regionale Analyse, Wortbildungsmodell, ukrainische Oikonymie.

## **Ukrainian regional oikonymy: Modern state and perspectives**

YAROSLAV REDKVA AND MICHAEL LUKASHCHUK

### **1. Introduction**

Ukrainian onomastics today is an important constituent in the world of onomastic science and occupies an important niche by having fundamental theoretical and practical accomplishments in the analysis of all classes of proper names. Obviously, to be fully integrated into the worldwide onomastic community, Ukrainian scholars of onymic space must consider events taking place in today's globalised world ([Redkva 2020](#)).

Modern Ukrainian onomastics today fills an appropriate and significant niche in world onomastics as it employs modern methods and approaches to the analysis of onymic vocabulary. Lately, different approaches to the analysis of toponyms have been adopted, and attention is focussed on cognitive, sociolinguistic, ethnolinguistic, and ontological aspects. The most important sphere of Ukrainian name studies is toponymy, with oikonoms (i.e. settlement names) the most important constituent.

### **2. Ukrainian oikonymy: Stages of its formation and modern approaches to its analysis**

The oikonymy of Ukraine is currently one of the most studied spheres of naming, and one of the subfields of onomastics where complex generalisations and unification is needed in the sense of understanding of objective interpretations of place names based on clearly elaborated modern methodologies of analysis. Determinant in Ukrainian and Slavic onomastics are methodologies based on etymological, lexico-semantic, structural, and derivational approaches to its analyses today.

Place names of Ukraine are national heritage and a specific cultural layer that deserves to be analysed from three perspectives: anthroponymic, social-historical and systemic (in the sense of the social and historical context of oikonym formation). Archaic Ukrainian oikonymy has all the characteristics and spatial and time dimensions, its oikonymic models are divided into: anthroponymic- and appellative-stem (partly reconstructed); they are toponymic coinages with ancient derivational models and have analogues mostly in western Slavic languages ([Kupchynska 2016: 32](#)).

## 2.1. Stage 1

From the 1960s, toponymy (and oikonymy accordingly), as we mentioned earlier, became the focus of Ukrainian onomasticians' attention. Compiling card indices of toponyms became popular (Korepanova 1961: 185), and through linguistic analysis, onomasticians were able to perform valid, comparative historical, and cultural historical onomastic analysis, extrapolating generalisations. Since this time, we can say that Ukrainian toponymy shifted to a high theoretical level and intensification of distributional and regional studies of oikonyms due to a large factual body of material collected from archives and field trips. We mean here regional topographic and micro toponymic context, dialects of all territory of Ukraine. Despite ideological (soviet) bias, from 1967 to 1975 a twenty-six-volume reference book *History of towns and villages of Ukrainian SSR* was out of print (one volume represents one of the twenty-six Oblast centres according to the then administrative division of Ukrainian SSR), and they provided the first written record of every place name and indicated their origin. The publication of the *Etymological dictionary of chronicle geographical names of southern Rus* by I. Zhelezniak, A. Korepanova and L. Masenko in 1981 is not less important due to the significance of oikonymic material which etymology goes back to historical Rus lands. Etymology of seven hundred toponyms is provided in the dictionary entries of the dictionary that were collected from old Rus chronicles of the southern part of Kievan Rus and neighbouring Ukrainian lands including toponyms that originated from eleventh to the fourteenth centuries such as *The Tale of Bygone Years*, *Nestor's Chronicle*, *Old East Slavic chronicle of Kievan Rus* and others.

## 2.2. Stage 2

Intensive studies of diachronic historical and etymological analyses of place names in Ukraine were undertaken during the period (the 1960s) as monographs and dissertations, as well as publications in regional and formant oikonymy. The last third of the twentieth century and up to the 2020s were marked by an increased onomasticians' interest in oikonyms in the archives, and their treatment from different linguistic perspectives: a) etymological, b) synchronic and diachronic, c) lexico-semantic, d) derivational, considering phonetic and morphological characteristics of oikonyms from historical point of view.

## 3. Ukrainian oikonomatics: Trends, geography of studies, onomasticians, achievements (a survey of the most significant publications)

From this perspective we can identify certain trends from the point of Ukrainian oikonymy and we think relevant to provide a list of most renown onomasticians who studied toponyms in different regions of Ukraine and

(based on the analysis of their major works) consider their achievements (mechanisms of interpretation of oikonyms as elements of a whole toponymic system) in each of these perspectives.

Thus, we indicate four perspectives: 3.1. regional; 3.2. stratigraphic and distributional; 3.3. socio-onomastic and economastic; 3.4. linguocultural studies in Ukrainian oikonymy.

### 3.1.1. Geography of the studies, onomasticians

The oikonymy of Ukraine was studied by regions and may be presented by the following areas and regional studies, monographs and dissertations (we do not include here some of the works of the above-mentioned scholars):

Bukovyna (Chernivtsi Oblast): (Karpenko 1973; Verbych 2019); Volyn (Volyn Oblast) (Shulhach 2001); the area between the Dnipro and Buh rivers (Mykolaivska Oblast) (Loboda 1976); Donbas (Donetsk Oblast) (Zharykova 2011); Zakarpattia (Zakarpatska Oblast) (Halas 1960); Ivano-Frankivshchyna (Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast) (Yatsiy 2009, 2015); Crimea (Crimean peninsula) (Bushakov 2003, 2005); Lvivshchyna (Lviv Oblast) (Cherniakhivska 1966); Odeshchyna (Odesa Oblast) (Karpenko 1975, 1978); Opillia (north-western part of Podillia plateau in Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, and Ternopil Oblasts) (Kotovysh 2000a, 2000b); south-western Podillia (Khmelnyska Oblast) (Torchynskiy 1993; Torchynska & Torchynskiy 2008); northern Prychornomor'ya (part of Kherson and Mykolaiv Oblasts in historical aspect) (Kasim 1978); northern Ternopilshchyna (northern districts of Ternopil Oblast) (Volianiuk 2009); northern Khmelnyshchyna (northern districts of Khmelnytska Oblast) (Hereta 2004); Pokuttia (historic territory of north-eastern part of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast) (Buchko 1990); Poltavshchyna (Poltava Oblast) (Lysenko 2007); Prycarpattia and the Carpathians (administrative part of Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, and Ternopil Oblasts) (Haborak 1999, 2007; Khudash & Demchuk 1991; Khudash 1995, 2004, 2006); Rivnenshchyna (Rovenska Oblast) (Pura 1990); Rus lands of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in sixteenth to eighteenth centuries (Pluskota 1998, 2019); Slobozhanshchyna (Kharkiv Oblast) (Abdula 2008); Sumshchyna (Sumska Oblast) (Ivanenko 2006, 2016); eastern Podillia (Vinnytsia Oblast) (Dyka 2009); Cherkashchyna (Cherkasy Oblast) (Hontsa 2006).

### 3.1.2. Achievements (review of the major publications)

Over the last fifty-eight years (1961–2019) forty-seven monographs and dissertations provided in the references were devoted to regional oikonymy of Ukraine. But Ukrainian regional oikonymy has achieved most considerable progress in the past thirty years (1990–2019). Below we provide an analysis by using a descriptive method of all eighteen works (monographs and dissertations) that were published in this time period.

#### 3.1.2.1. Dmytro Buchko's monograph *The origin of place names of*

*Pokuttia* (Buchko 1990) was a major publication for further oikonymic studies in Ukraine. The work traces the evolution of toponymic models of south-eastern part of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, a historical area of Ukraine called Pokuttia. The author established the time of origin, functioning and loss of productivity of the toponymic models, their stratigraphy in Old Rus, Old Ukrainian and New Ukrainian periods of language development based on distributional and derivational analyses. Models of oikonyms in *-jb*, *-ychi*, *-any*, *-ivtsi*, *-yntsi*, *-ytsia* were analysed and verified, and the most frequent distribution of the models in *-iv* (*-ova*, *-ovo*, *-eva*), *-yn* (*-yna*), *-ivtsi*, *-yntsi* was indicated in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries. The author revealed and reconstructed a number of composite and composite-stem Ukrainian names in the oikonymy of Pokuttia. Oikonyms of eastern-Romance origin (sixteenth to seventeenth centuries), Polish and German origins (nineteenth to twentieth centuries) were authenticated in the toponymic system of the area. As a regional synchronic and diachronic study, it is valuable in the sense that it enabled to return to a number of localities their primary names where autochthonous Ukrainian origin can be traced.

**3.1.2.2. Mykhaylo Khudash and Maria Demchuk** published a monograph *Origin of Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names: Anthroponym-stem coinages* in 1991. The authors tried to provide acceptable etymologies for Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names originating from Slavic autochthonous proper name-composites, Ukrainian composite nicknames and place names formed from Slavic composite internally shortened personal proper names of the type “*indeclinabile + nomen*” and from prefixal appellative Ukrainian nicknames (Khudash & Demchuk 1991: 213). Based on the analysis of two anthroponym-stem types of oikonyms, the authors tried to prove that these oikonyms represent exceptionally Old Rus and Old Ukrainian oikonym legacies, and based on this fact, this region may be considered to be settled by eastern Slavs in the Old Rus period. Precisely from this time, as the authors believe, oikonyms of the type *\*-jb*, *\*-ja*, *\*-je*; plural tribal and possessive names in *-ovъ* (*-iv*), *-ova*, *-ovo*, *-ynъ*, *-yn*, *-yno*, where Slavic composite names, composite derivative names; patronymic names in *-ovychi*, *-evychi*; employment related names in *-ovtsi* (>*-ivtsi*), *-yntsi*, demonyms in *-btsi* (>*-tsi*) form their stems.

A conclusion on much later origins of place names with suffix *-ovka* (>*-ivka*) was appropriate. The monograph presents a thorough analysis of the oikonyms that have undergone a number of different deformations over the period of their genesis caused by factors of popular etymological reinterpretation, phonetic and assimilative changes, lexicalization processes, and dialect influence. Special focus was on common Slavic and Proto Slavic anthroponyms and their common Slavic derivational typology (in many cases both oikonym and original anthroponym underwent reconstruction). An assumption was made about the presence of a Polish anthroponymic legacy, and Polish substitution in Ukrainian

place names from the middle of the fourteenth century till 1772 (when the territory belonged to Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth); the stratigraphy of oikonyms of these two structural types was also mentioned, along with a special emphasis on the necessity to restore historical names of localities unlawfully and groundlessly renamed in different times. A conclusion on reconstructional possibilities of oikonymy for restoring historical anthroponyms that were not registered in historical records is relevant.<sup>1</sup>

**3.1.2.3.** In the same vein M. Khudash published a monograph *Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names: Formed from Slavic autochthonous composite abbreviated personal names* in 1995. The publication became an organic continuation of anthroponym names of Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names analysis discussed in *Origin of Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names: Anthroponym-stem coinages*, i.e. its second part (Khudash & Demchuk 1991). The author continued to provide information on etymology of anthroponym-stem oikonyms and their anthroponymic etymons, the material provided here not according to topoformants, but structural and etymological type of its etymons (Khudash 1995: 5). Oikonyms derived from Old Rus and Old Ukrainian composite autochthonous personal proper names of their postpositive and prepositive components (*ibid.*) are analysed in separate dictionary entries ordered alphabetically. The author presents oikonyms, not included in the previous work by mistake (there are forty such names). Structurally the monograph consists of two parts, the first one provides the analysis of indisputable anthroponym coinages of two types of oikonyms, and the second one examines cases where the anthroponym origin of oikonyms is of ambiguous origin. It is important, in our opinion, that M. Khudash took into account etymologies of old place names, and their phonetic and morphological forms from written records (e.g. Old Rus or Old Ukrainian forms of reconstructed anthroponym), and while establishing the origins of relatively later oikonyms (eighteenth century) reconstructed anthroponyms are spelled in modern phonetic and morphological forms. The following Old Rus derivational models were productive: possessives \*-jb\*(-ja, -\*je), -bsko; adjectives in -bn[o]; patronymic names in -ychi, -ovychi, -evychi; and pluratives. The point about preferential etymologies of Slavic oikonyms on Slavic language basis to avoid mistakes in establishing their origin from other languages that were not mentioned in written records seems logical.

**3.1.2.4.** In his third monograph (Khudash 2004) on etymologies of Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian place names, focus was made on oikonyms that originated from anthroponyms derived from appellatives. The

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<sup>1</sup> By the way, a leading Ukrainian onomastician, Viktor Shulhach, in a series of his fundamental publications, *Essays in Proto Slavic anthroponymy* (see Shulhach 2008–2019), mostly based on the analysis of oikonyms and microtoponyms successfully continues to reconstruct all (!) Proto Slavic anthroponymic fund with samples of archaic prefixal and suffixal derivation models and reconstructs fragments of genetic lexico-derivational microsystems.



publication was supplemented with etymologies of 238 place names, anthroponym-stem oikonyms derived from Slavic autochthonous composite place names and composite abbreviations (apocopic and apocopic-suffixal personal proper names), i.e. the oikonyms not discussed in two previous publications. These additions are beyond the declared analysis of appellative anthroponyms as they are coinages from Slavic autochthonous personal proper names originating from shortened composite names by means of apheresis, syncope, or apocope, with possible suffixation (Khudash 2004: 419). Based on determined etymologies of oikonyms from anthroponyms of anthroponym-stem origin and anthroponyms of appellative-stem origin, M. Khudash reconstructed 566 unregistered anthroponym etymons in his *Index of personal names* and marked by an asterisk (Khudash 2004: 479–535).

**3.1.2.5.** Mykhaylo Khudash published his last monograph in 2006 (Khudash 2006) that was the result of fifteen years of studies of Ukrainian Carpathian and Ciscarpathian oikonyms. The author performs an analysis of oikonyms of appellative-stem origin in this generalising work. Basic appellatives are treated quite widely: the linguist treats as appellatives also possible oronyms (oronym-derived oikonyms), hydronyms (hydronym-derived oikonyms of vague or secondary origin). A new approach to a dictionary entry should be considered the method of exposition of semantic transformation of a complex adjective-substantive etymon of etymologized oikonym in an adjectival name of a locality by means of an ellipsis of a basic component of the etymon and nominalisation – a semantic shift into oikonym – its adjectival component (Khudash 2006: 8). Among appellative-derived oikonyms, a considerable attention is paid to primary prepositional (prepositions *za, kolo, mezhy, na, nad, pid, po, pry*), and also to lexicalised qualitative word combinations (prefixal, prefixal-suffixal), that later acquired a status of official forms; also demonyms formed from appellative-derived microtoponyms that shifted into place names as a result of transonymisation. Stratigraphy of oikonyms with their layers of different times was taken into consideration, though not fully enough. Dictionary oikonym entries here have the following structure: entry word, localisation of a place name, historical evidence, and the type of oikonym with its appellative etymon.

The significance of these four monographs where the object of study was oikonymy of the Ukrainian Carpathians, Ciscarpathia (including Bukovyna) and Transcarpathia lies in an attempt to start regional study of all Ukrainian oikonymy that in the final result would lead to compiling *Etymological dictionary of oikonyms in Ukraine*. In the fifteen-year period (1991–2006) the proposed methodology of oikonym analysis was to a certain degree new in Ukrainian onomastics. It was important to take into account methodological principles of oikonym etymologisation establishing not only its etymon, but also etymologisation of the etymon; attributing etymologized oikonym to a



certain lexico-semantic and structural type; an attempt to restore historical names of artificially renamed and modified oikonyms in their primary phonetic and phonetico-morphological variant and recommendation to restore legally the original place name.

General conclusions that were arrived at considering the fact that the studied area of the Ukrainian Carpathian mountains and Ciscarpathia, is represented by ethnic Ukrainian oikonymy of Old Rus period with Proto Slavic anthroponym etymons; anthroponym, hydronym, oronym, and appellative-derived Ukrainian oikonyms of later origin; and comparatively inconsiderable number of foreign origin oikonyms (Polish, German, Wallachian, and Hungarian).

**3.1.2.6.** Polish scholar **Teresa Pluskota (1998)** undertook a serious regional study of historical oikonymy of Ukraine – the so-called Rus lands of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth during the period of the second half of the sixteenth to the end of eighteenth centuries entitled *Nazwy miejscowe ziem ruskich Rzeczypospolitej XVI–XVIII w. Toponimia Ukrainy i pogranicza polsko-ukraińskiego* [Place names of Rus lands of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in 16th–18th centuries. Toponymy of Ukraine and Polish-Ukrainian frontier], analysing 19,000 place names of the area (without parallel forms). The material is divided into two groups based on the classical classification of Witold Taszycki, namely: 1) oikonyms formed from resident's names; and 2) oikonyms indicating a type of a settlement. The monograph deals with the geographical and chronological differentiation of derivational and semantic types: \*-j-, \*-bje -n-, -sk-, -ov-, -ova-, -any-, -yn-, -(iv)ka; -yšč- /-ysk; -yči /-ytsia; -yči /-ivka; -tsi /-ets'; -yč /-ič; -yšč- /-ys 'k-; -yna /-izna; -ščyna /-ščyzna, and also their productivity, correlation, and parallel forms. Supplements (geographical maps) for each of the voivodeships were relevant, schematically they provide ratios of place names formed from the names of dwellers, and oikonyms indicating directly the type of locality in each of the centuries; and ratios of specific formants in relation to other derivational types of all place names during the specified centuries. Repeated Ukrainian and Polish anthroponyms (names) underlying oikonyms were provided in the supplements, and also semantics of basic appellatives (possessive, cultural, topographical).

**3.1.2.7.** **Teresa Pluskota** published *Słownik nazw miejscowych i ich wariantów od XVI do XVIII wieku. Województwo belskie, ruskie, wołyńskie, podolskie, braclawskie* [Dictionary of place names and their variants from the 16th to the 18th centuries. Belskie, Ruske, Volhynia, Podillia, and Braclawskie Voivodeships] (2019) twenty-one years later. The dictionary is a catalogue (detailed list) of oikonyms that were not included into her monograph published in 1998. It contains an expanded work on the list of place names with indication to their variants and includes additional Ukrainian sources that the author worked on. Oikonymic material covers the area of Belzkie, Ruske, Volhynia, Bratslav, and Podillia voivodeships from the sixteenth to eighteenth

centuries. Working on the “Dictionary...” turned out to be important from the point of view of historical, religious realia of the Ukraine of the Middle Ages and existing linguistic frontier; it mirrors the processes that elucidate Ukrainian and Polish place names, doubles (parallels), tribal, patrimonial, occupational, patronymic, and hybrid names. Dictionary entries contain oikonym semantics and structure, but etymology is not available due to the size of the dictionary.

**3.1.2.8.** The first systemic study of place names in Volynska Oblast was published in 2001: etymological reference dictionary *Oikonymy of Volyn* (Shulhach 2001). Viktor Shulhach analysed origins of 1100 oikonyms of Volyn. The material was presented as dictionary entries which has an updated information about an oikonym, and variants of the onym are provided, as well as its etymology and motivation that was the reason to form the place name. Though the dictionary states that it is a popular scientific publication, all the oikonyms are given documented etymologies, linguistically verified and devoid of extra linguistic factors.

**3.1.2.9.** Vira Kotovych authored several studies of the genesis of oikonymy in areal aspect. Expanding on her Ph.D. dissertation (Kotovych 2000a) she published a monograph *The origin of place names of Opillia* (Kotovych 2000b). The work aims at the synchronic and diachronic study and structural and derivational analyses of 645 oikonyms of Opillia (Peremyshlianskyi, Mykolayivskyi, Zhydachivskyi districts of Lviv Oblast; Rohatynskyi and Halytskyi districts of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast; Berezhanskyi, Pidhayetskyi, and Monastyrskyi districts of Ternopil Oblast). Of the conclusions that the author reached, we may single out a genesis of archaic oikonym derivational models (productivity, loss of productivity), in particular of possessive oikonyms in *\*-jb* in the twelfth to fourteenth centuries; models in *-ivtsi*, *-yntsi*, *-any* (seventeenth to nineteenth centuries); absence of oikonyms in *-ychi* in the eighteenth century; steady productivity (twelfth to twentieth centuries) of oikonym models in *-iv* (*-ov-a*, *-ov-e*, *-ov-o*), *-yn*; tribal names in *-y / -i*, prefixal and confixal place names; productivity of model in *-ets*’, *-ytsia* in the seventeenth century; and an increase in productivity of models in *-ivka* from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries with indication on its occurrence in the first half of the twentieth century of toponymic metonymy in such place names (Kotovych 2000b: 135–140).

**3.1.2.10.** In the next publication – onomastic dictionary of oikonyms in Drohobyskyi district, Lviv Oblast – entitled *Origin of place names of Drohobychyna: Scientific theories* (see Kotovych 2012), she conducted an etymological analysis of 161 place names of the area. The oldest were place names in *\*-jb* (*-je*, *-ja*) represented by six oikonyms: *Boryslav*, *Voloshcha*, *Drohobych*, *Lishnia*, *Pidbuzh*, *Urizh*, patronym-stem oikonyms in *-ychi*, and possessive oikonyms in *-iv*. Attention was also paid to the renaming and changing of old names into new ones, the liquidation of settlements, and the

abandonment of old names as the localities were joined to larger ones for eighty place names in the Drohobyskyi district in the middle of the twentieth century. Some old anthroponyms were reconstructed (names of progenitors, founders or owners of settlements), who, in V. Kotovych's opinion, formed the basis of place names (Kotovych 2012: 73–76).

**3.1.2.11.** By analogy with the previous work, the next one by V. Kotovych *Origin of place names of Sambirshchyna: Scientific theories* (see Kotovych 2015) is also an onomastic dictionary, and 127 oikonyms of the Sambirskyi district, Lviv Oblast, were the object of its analysis. The oldest in this area were place names founded back in the first half of the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries (possessives in \**-jb (-ja)*, *-iv*, *-ov-a*, *-yn-a*, *-ychi*, *-any*), and later derivational types (*-ivka*, *-ovets'*, *-pil'*), among which: anthroponym-stem, family, locality and ethnicity oikonyms; metonymic oikonyms (place names named after nearby objects), i.e. secondary: hydronymic, micro toponymic, oikonym; names with indication to the type of locality, and specific feature of location: the work focussed on phonetic and morphological changes in time and some erroneous records, and attention is also paid to renaming (Kotovych 2015: 65–67).

**3.1.2.12.** The dictionary of oikonyms of Ternopil Oblast *Origin of place names of Ternopilshchyna* was conceived by a renown Ukrainian onomastician Dmytro Buchko and completed by Vira Kotovych in 2017 (Buchko & Kotovych 2017). The handwritten draft contained 2466 place names, but in the final printed variant – 1066 entries (116 of them had been analysed by D. Buchko), where etymology was provided based on archival source, different reference books and indices of administrative division. We should mention here that V. Kotovych strictly followed the methodology of analysis of oikonyms tested by her co-author (semantic and derivational analyses). She carried out the methodology offered by Professor Buchko in 1993 that takes into account derivational and motivational aspects of a place name origin and are divided into the following types: 1) place names of pre-oikonym (primary) level of derivation (appellative: singular, plural, metaphorical, formed from the names of collectives of people (patronymic, ethnonym, family, professional and derisive names), proprial (hydronym- and oronym-stem); 2) names of oikonym (secondary) level of derivation: anthroponym (with possessive meaning formants: \**-jb*, \**-j-a*, \**-j-e*; with possessive formants proper: *-iv*, *-yn*; with polyfunctional suffixes: *-ivk-a*, *-ets'*, *-ykh-a*, *-(shch)yn-a*; toponymic oikonyms: suffixal, prefixal, adjectival, compound and composite, oikonyms from written records; and 3) oikonyms of vague origin.

Diachronic analysis of place names has the logical structure of the dictionary entries applying four principles: 1) nomination of a locality via representation in its name a connection with a name of a person or a group of people; 2) nomination of a locality via representation in its name a connection with names of neighbouring geographical objects (rarely – distant); 3) nomination of a locality via representation in its name of individual peculiarities (features)

of the locality; and 4) nomination of a locality via representation in its name of economic, social, and political factors and memorial names (naming settlements to honour famous people, important historical events, etc.), and also specially coined names (Buchko & Kotovych 2017: 9–18).

**3.1.2.13.** Valeriy Bushakov in his monograph (Bushakov 2003) and habilitation dissertation (Bushakov 2005) in historical, etymological, and grammatical aspects analysed Iranian, Greek, Turkic, Italian, Caucasian, and also biblical vocabulary in historical toponymy of the Crimean Peninsula. He described ethnolinguistical and geographical conditions of toponymic system formation of Crimea; the basis of onyms nomenclature geographical terminology was singled out. Chronologically analysed toponyms were recorded in ancient and mediaeval written records.

**3.1.2.14.** Regional character in the analysis of place names has historical and etymological dictionary by Myroslav Haborak (Haborak 2007) where he provides interpretation of 808 oikonyms in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast in its ethnographic border (Boikivshchyna, Hutsulshchyna, Opillia). Dictionary entries provide names of towns, townships, villages, hamlets, and small villages (existing at present and past separate settlements). The interpretations include: historical spellings of settlements by centuries (including the most ancient going first); specifying the stem, ways of derivation and derivational models according to which they were formed; onym neighbouring landscape, and take into consideration popular etymology (legends, stories) while explaining the origin of the name. In each entry, and English spelling of the oikonym is provided (next to literary spelling of the name) given in brackets after entry word.

**3.1.2.15.** Starting with a limnonym *Avdiyeye ozero* (Avdiev lake) and ending with the village *Yashchykove*, the author of *Etymological dictionary of toponyms of Ukraine* (Luchyk 2014)<sup>2</sup> Vasyl Luchyk made a wide etymological excursus in all toponymic space of Ukraine. The work provides 3700 modern and historical toponyms whose origins are revealed in 2600 etymological entries most of which are oikonyms. Toponymic material is equally distributed among oikonyms, hydronyms, and oronyms. The publication of such work was also a certain civic duty not only to experts, but also to the society. Being labelled as a reference book, the public can have access to understandable and handy explanation of the origin of well-known historical geographical names in Ukraine (including oikonyms). V. Luchyk correctly refutes and proposes etymologies in his *Etymological dictionary of toponyms of Ukraine* to those toponyms which in his time Mykola Yanko tried to explain, alas, with many mistakes and etymologically unfounded versions in his *Toponymic reference dictionary of Ukrainian SSR* (Yanko 1973), and its second edition: *Toponymic dictionary of Ukraine* (Yanko 1998).

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<sup>2</sup> See the review for the etymological dictionary by Redkva (2015).

**3.1.2.16.** [Vasyl Yatsiy](#) expanding on his dissertation ([Yatsiy 2009](#)) published a historical and etymological dictionary *Oikonymy of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast: Historical and etymological dictionary* ([Yatsiy 2015](#)). A complex synchronic and diachronic analyses of 804 oikonyms in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast were performed. The dictionary entries contain derivational structure, stems, structural and semantic types and motivation of oikonyms. Structural semantic types reflect typological features characteristic for Slavic toponyms and formed by morphological (suffixation: *-iv*, *-yn*, *-s'k*, *-ts'k*, *-ets'*, *-ytsia*), lexico-semantic, and lexico-syntactic modes of derivation. The author provides typology of oikonymic models of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast considering general Slavic oikonymic and microoikonymic context.

**3.1.2.17.** [Oleksandr Ivanenko](#) in his dissertation ([Ivanenko 2006](#)) carried out synchronic and diachronic study of place names in Sumska Oblast during twelfth to twentieth centuries taking into account toponymy of Slobozhanshchyna and Chernihiv-Sumske (south-eastern) Polissia. The author describes basic models of oikonymicon in Sumshchyna focussing on structural semantic and structural grammatical peculiarities of derivation of place names in the region. Social, linguistic, and historical peculiarities of the territory that was most intensively populated in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries were discussed. Oikonyms of Sumshchyna was represented by twenty-eight suffixal derivational types, most typical were: *-iv*, *-ove*, *-iv-k(a)*, *-yn-*, *-s'k-*, *-iv-shchyna*. The most archaic are hydronym, anthroponym, and appellative-stem place names; oikonymic- and demonym-stem derivational coinages in *-s'k-* and *-ets'* were of later origin, appellative oikonyms reflect specific geographic nomenclature of Chernihiv-Sumske Polissia; the newest were place names of soviet period that were of ideological character and were renamed during decommunisation and restoration of historical justice. In 2016, [Oleksandr Ivanenko](#) published an e-book *Place names of Sumshchyna* ([Ivanenko 2016](#)) expanding on supplements to his dissertation “Materials of dictionary of toponyms in Sumska Oblast” in which he analysed 1700 oikonyms of the region, 160 oikonyms are not registered in the administrative division anymore and may disappear from toponymy of Ukraine.

**3.1.2.18.** [Svyatoslav Verbych](#) in his historical and etymological dictionary *Place names of Chernivtsi Oblast: An etymological dictionary* ([Verbych 2019](#)), a co-author of the article being a reviewer of the publication, provides the formation and etymology of 417 place names of northern Bukovyna. Overall, the dictionary entry contains interpretation of origin of a place name with description of its derivational model and variants of each of the names. The scholar took into consideration etymologies of Bukovynian place names by other linguists (mostly works by Yuriy Karpenko – see [Karpenko 1964](#), [1965a](#), [1965b](#), [1973](#)) and the last one is author's treatment of oikonym origin.

## 4. Conclusions

**4.1.** An observation analysis of regional oikonymy of Ukraine represented by monographic, historical, etymological, and lexicographical literature, and dissertations authenticates that at present these studies have a systemic character and to a great degree demonstrate the common Slavic toponymic context; reflect interlingual onomastic parallels; and interethnic onomastic contacts in the border areas. The main idea lies in the fact that Ukrainian oikonymy is making advances and has ambitious plans.

**4.2.** Such work as the planned scientific topics “Oikonymy of Ukraine in historical and etymological aspect”, “Genesis of Ukrainian oikonymicon”, and “Oikonym lexicography: Historical and etymological aspects”, has been continued over a long time by the Department of History of the Ukrainian Language and Onomastics, the Institute of the Ukrainian Language at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine resulting in the attainment of certain achievements, in particular, theoretical principles are enhanced, the methodology of description and analyses of oikonoms is perfected, and etymological analysis of Ukrainian oikonoms is carried out taking into consideration their historical context.

**4.3.** This systemic work is far from completion. Today we still have to study place names in such regions as lower Naddniprianshchyna and central and eastern Polissia. The most prolific number of publications appeared after 1990 when the VI National Onomastic Conference, which took place in Odesa, defined as its top priority work on oikonymy in Ukraine. We have to mention here that comprehensive study of Ukrainian oikonymy will enable the publication of the *Dictionary of oikonoms of Ukraine*, that in turn will be an important component of the *Ukrainian onomastic atlas*, and in turn – the *Common Slavic onomastic atlas*.

**4.4.** Therefore, the above-mentioned projects and studies will enable a better understanding of the processes of formation of the system of place names of all of Slavic world in diachrony (etymological, comparative historical, stratigraphic approaches), and reveal modern tendencies in the creation of this types of onyms in Ukraine.

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