On the grounds of the basic system (БС) of the Russian literary language, as outlined in (1), we endeavoured to find out whether system relations exist within the phonemes that are singled out in initial sound-type abbreviations (ИСТА) as a particular lexical class of words, and if such relations exist, then, in what way do they differ from the relations observed in the БС. The system of phonemes within the initial sound-type abbreviations are analysed here not in isolation from, but in comparison with the БС.

In the ИСТА as the material shows, there is a peculiar phonological system of its own. I.E.I. Славянова (2), substantiating the need to single out a subsystem of loan-words, defines three criteria which, in her opinion, may relate loan-words to a special phonological subsystem of the Modern Russian literary language:

1. The pronunciation of these words is such that it is impossible for the majority of words of the Russian literary language. Here "variation of the same phonemes according to positions is not the same in different words".
2. The pronunciation of the majority of loan-words is variable; the same word is pronounced by different people in different ways and also... one and the same person pronounces one and the same word in a different manner. Thus the behaviour of the phonemes in these words is defined not by the determinate regularity as in the basic system, but statistically*.
3. "In the basic system regularities in the phonemes' behaviour essentially coincide with the rules of pronunciation... The phonetic regularities of the subsystem define only the phonemes' behaviour and do not coincide with the orthoepic rules" (2). It would seem that these criteria which belong mainly to the pronouncing system of the Russian literary language are not sufficient for substantiating the singling out of similar groups of words into special phonological subsystem. First of all, it is necessary to define the characteristics of the basic phonological system of the majority of the words of the Russian literary language. The БС is characterized by its own peculiar comosition of the same sound units to other ones in definite positions: accented and unaccented vowels—before hard and soft consonants, consonants before vowels and also before other consonants at the end of the word. The different characteristics for contrasting some sound units to others in definite positions allows to single out in the phonological system of the Russian literary language strong and weak phonemes. The БС has a quite definite number of weak and strong phonemes which are distributed strictly according to their positions. The ИСТА phonological system is not only characterized by a compositon of some sound units to others in definite positions which differ from the БС and, accordingly, by different possibility to quality differently some or other sound units in the same position.

The specific character of the ИСТА phonological system consists not only in the different distribution of the phoneme (as a rule, the same phonemes which are represented in the БС) according to their positions, but also in the possibility (or otherwise) of contrasting some or other phonemes to each other in a definite position. The latter is connected both with the presence (or absence) in the system of the phonemes of abbreviations of a special type, and with the lack of representation (or lack of representation) of some or other phonemes in a definite position preset by the material. In the phonological system of a sound type's initial abbreviations the following regularities may be noted: within consonant phonemes taken from the abbreviations of a given type and determined by system relationships:

1. The absence at the end of a compositon of consonants according to hardness-softness. In the ИСТА in the end position there can be only hard consonants (this concerns both words, according to voiceless voiced features of noise sounds, and unpaired according to the same features, unpaired sounds). For example: 1) ИСТА (институт имени академика М.В. Ломоносова) (институт имени академика М.В. Ломоносова) 2) ИСТА (Институт имени академика М.В. Ломоносова) 3) ИСТА (Институт имени академика М.В. Ломоносова).
4. The absence of the cooccurrence of hardness-softerness in positions before consonants. These conso-
nants are phonologically qualified either as weak according to the hardness-softer-
ness criterion, or as by two criteria (hardness-softerness and voiceless-voi-
ed) before /n/ in the NPS both hard and soft consonants are represented:

\[
\begin{array}{lll}
\text{Consonant} & /\text{Hard} / & /\text{Soft} / \\
\text{Before /n/} & 0.7 & 0.3 \\
\text{Before /n/} & 0.7 & 0.3 \\
\text{Before /n/} & 0.7 & 0.3 \\
\text{Before /n/} & 0.7 & 0.3 \\
\text{Before /n/} & 0.7 & 0.3 \\
\end{array}
\]

In the IPA phonologic system the weak conso-
ant phonemes /p/ by hardness-softerness is represented as ATR (Articulatory Rad-
diabetic Academy), BNT (International Pho-
nematic Institute) and NIPA (The IPA where the neutrality of /p/ is possible:

\[
\begin{array}{lll}
\text{BNT} & /\text{p} / & /\text{p} / \\
\text{NIPA} & /\text{p} / & /\text{p} / \\
\text{NIPA} & /\text{p} / & /\text{p} / \\
\text{NIPA} & /\text{p} / & /\text{p} / \\
\text{NIPA} & /\text{p} / & /\text{p} / \\
\end{array}
\]

All the above, it would seem to us, convincingly points to the existence of a phono-
logical system of 2 sounds: /p/ and /p/, abbreviations, differing from the

BNS.


(2) Генезис Я.Я. Об одной фо-
nологической задаче в современном рус-
ском языке // Развитие фонетики совре-

(3) Here and so forth * denote a) at present this organization (insti-
tution etc.) does not exist, b) this name is substituted for another, c) at present this abbreviation is not in use.

(4) In the IPA GNS (Governing National Institute of Speech) there is a composition /n/ which is com-
posed with the initial sound and the infixion of the word sound.

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Po 2.8.3

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Po 2.8.4