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SUMMARY

The article is concerned mainly with the form, but also with the semantic characteristics of the Latin *nomina agentis* in *-tor*. Based on the equivalent formations in other IE languages, two different accent-ablaut paradigms were suggested for the PIE period; however, the Latin forms – if we follow the up-to-now formulated sound laws – can be derived from neither of them. Therefore a hypothesis has been set forth claiming that the PIE stressed **é* in the suffix could regularly yield *ō* in Latin (cf. also *-ōs*, *-ōris*; comp. *-ior*, *-iōris*; *-ō*, *-ōnis*). The article completes the existing semantic analyses of the Latin nouns in *-tor* (which function in the texts not only as the *nomina agentis*, but also as quasi-participles) by researching the cases where the nouns in *-tor* stand in the place of the participle in the constructions of ablative absolute. The article concludes by general comment on the continuity of the category of the “agentive” deverbative substantives and adjectives (for which the author has suggested the overall working title of *verbalia*).