1. The neuter i-paradigm in Pontic Greek

- **Gender and animacy**: Neuter nouns are the least affected by the spread of the genitive singular ending.

2. The extension of the inflectional endings of i-neuters to nouns belonging to other inflectional paradigms

   - **Morphological reanalysis** (Haspelmath 1994): The genitive singular and plural endings of the i-paradigm spread across the overwhelming majority of nouns. This spread is nearly complete:

     1. **The neuter i-paradigm in Pontic Greek**
        - **Stressed**
          - SINGULAR
            - Nom: μάριον
            - PLURAL: μάριοι
          - Gen: μάριον
          - Acc: μάριοι
          - Dat: μάριοι

     2. **Genitive plural**
        - The reanalyzed genitive plural ending -ιων has spread across the overwhelming majority of nouns. This spread is nearly complete:

         1. **Genitive singular**
            - On the analogy of the genitive plural ending, the genitive singular ending -ιων starts spreading across non-neuter nouns, as well. This spread, though, appears to be conditioned by (a) gender and animacy, and (b) stress: the ending is found in all neuters except non-oxytone ones and in inanimate, primarily non-oxytone, os-masculines.

     3. **Factors conditioning the extension of the i-inflectional endings**
        - Gender and animacy
          - The spread of the genitive plural ending -ιων is nearly complete and, therefore, does not offer any insights on what might have conditioned its extension to nouns other than i-neuters.

        - The genitive singular ending -ιων, on the other hand, has spread less extensively and appears to have done so in the following order:

          1. i-neuters > α, ω, αντικείμενα > neuters
          2. inanimate masculines > animate and human masculines

   - **Stress**: The extension of the genitive singular ending -ιων is more indicative of what might have conditioned the spread of both inflectional endings.

     - The genitive endings of the i-neuter nouns spread to nouns that are either grammatically neuter or semantically [animate] or [human].

     4. **Implications for the organisation of nouns into inflectional paradigms in Pontic**

        - As the genitive endings -ιων and -ιων start to spread from the i-neuters to other neuter nouns and then to non-neuter nouns, membership into specific inflectional paradigms becomes unclear in the affected cells of the nouns’ paradigms.

        - Inflectional neuterisation: increasingly more and more nouns become more neuter-like in terms of their inflectional morphology.

     - This process is only one manifestation of a wider-scale series of neuterisation changes affecting the morphosyntax of nouns in the Asia Minor Greek dialects. In this particular case, Pontic exemplifies an early stage in the process of inflectional neuterisation while more advanced stages are found in other dialects, especially Cappadocian and the dialect of Phára (Karatsareas, in progress).

8. **Summary**

   - The extension of the genitive singular ending -ιων and of the genitive plural ending -ιων of the i-neuter paradigm to nouns belonging to other inflectional paradigms was conditioned by:

     a) semantic factors such as animacy;
     b) morphological factors such as gender; and,
     c) phonological factors such as stress.

   - This had serious ramifications for the organisation of nouns into inflectional paradigms in Pontic and forms part of more extensive neuterisation tendencies operative in the dialect which render nouns formally neuter in terms of their morphology and syntax.