

The prosodic system of Proto-Slavic

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TRADITIONAL SYSTEM: EXAMPLES, 1

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Common Slavic *voda

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Common Slavic *voda

OCS voda

Russian вода

Bulgarian вода

Polish woda

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OCS *voda*

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Polish *woda*

Common Slavic **ženy*

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Polish *żony*

TRADITIONAL SYSTEM: EXAMPLES, 2

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Common Slavic *zima

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OCS zima

Russian зима

Bulgarian зима

Polish zima

Common Slavic *pišq

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OCS zima

Russian зима

Bulgarian зима

Polish zima

Common Slavic *pišq

OCS pišq

Russian пишу

Bulgarian пиша

Polish piżę

TRADITIONAL PHONOLOGICAL SYSTEM

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CONSONANTS

VELAR	k g		x				
PALATAL		č	š ž				j
DENTAL/ALV.	t d	(c dz)	s z	n	r	l	
BILABIAL	p b			m			v

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VOWELS

FRONT	ь i	e ě		(no oral diphthongs)
BACK	ъ u	o a	y	

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Proto-Slavic *genū

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Bulgarian жени

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VOWELS

FRONT	ɨ i	e ě	
BACK	ɤ u	o a	ɣ
FRONT	i ī	e ē	
BACK	u ū	a ā	

oral diphthongs:

/e ē a ā/ + /i u/

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stress: one per word

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ǣ – long rising

â – long falling

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– yields the following “accents” (x = any vowel)

ḿ – long rising

ḡ – long falling

ḥ – short falling

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ˆx – long rising

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ˆx – short falling

ˆx – long neoacute

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ḥ – short falling

ḏ – long neoacute

ḑ – short neoacute

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ˆx – long rising

ˆx – long falling

ˆx – short falling

ˆx – long neoacute

ˆx – short neoacute

x – unaccented

“Ein akzentuierter Vokal duldet keinen weiteren im selben Wort, es konnte aber mehr als einen akutierten im Wort geben [reference to Garde 1976: 4, 194]. Akutierte Kurzvokale traten nur vor tautosyllabischen Sonanten auf.”

Holzer 2003: 34

PROSODIC FEATURES

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TRADITIONAL SYSTEM

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1 accented vs. unaccented

*stôrnɔ vs. *stornà

*vòdɔ vs. *vodà

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*stôrnə vs. *stornà

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2 long vs. short

*travà vs. *dvorà

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*stôrnŋ vs. *stornà

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3 rising vs. falling vs.
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*kōrvŋ vs. *stôrnŋ vs.
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1 accented vs. unaccented
(vs. pretonic)

**|starnan* vs. **star|nā*

**|uadan* vs. **ua|dā*

**|kārūā* vs. **|starnān* vs.
**kir|nu*

PROSODIC FEATURES

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***kir|nu**

2 long vs. short

***trā|uā** vs. ***du|rā**

PROSODIC FEATURES

TRADITIONAL SYSTEM

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***stôrnq** vs. ***stornà**

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Dybo's law: advancement of the accent from an accented short syllable to the following syllable

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- prosody: after Dybo's law, before Stang's law

Dybo's law: advancement of the accent from an accented short syllable to the following syllable

Stang's law: retraction of the accent from a reduced vowel (*u or *i) or a medial short diphthong to the preceding syllable, which receives neoacute tone

WORDS WITH MORE THAN TWO SYLLABLES

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1 PS m.loc.pl. *dya|rajxu (CS *dvòrěhь)

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- 1 PS m.loc.pl. ***du**a'**ra**ixu (CS ***dvò**rěxъ)
- 2 PS ipv. 2.pl. ***be**'**rā**ite (CS ***ber**ěte)

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- 3 PS prs. 3.sg. ***na**'**se**iti (CS ***nò**sitъ)

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- 2 PS ipv. 2.pl. ***be**|**rā**iṅte (CS ***be**rěṅte)
- 3 PS prs. 3.sg. ***na**|**se**iṅti (CS ***n**òsiṅb)
- 4 PS f.instr.pl. * **ge**|**nā**mī (CS ***ž**enāmi)

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- 4 PS f.instr.pl. * **ge**nā**mī** (CS ***ženā**mi)
- 5 PS m.nom.sg. ***ga**ta**u**u (CS ***gotò**v**ъ**)

DIFFICULT STRUCTURES

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Russian **пíсарь, пíсаря**

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Russian **пíсарь, пíсаря**

Posavian **pĩtān**

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Russian **пíсарь, пíсаря**

< Proto-Slavic ***pej|sārju** ?

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Russian **пíсарь, пíсаря**

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