Radek Čech (Ostrava) & Pavel Kosek (Brno) On the competing word order position of the Czech pronominal enclitics in the Oldest Czech Bible

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Abstract

The paper deals with the short pronominal forms that have the status of socalled *stálá enklitika* ('permanent enclitics') or *enclitica tantum* in Modern Czech: *mi* 'me', *ti* 'to you', *si* 'to myself / to yourself etc.', *sĕ* (> *se*) 'myself / yourself etc.', *tĕ* 'you', *ho* 'him', *mu* 'to him'. The analysis is based on material gained from selected books of the oldest complete Czech Bible translation from the middle of the 14th century. The talk focusses on word order properties of the analysed pronominal forms that are dependent on a finite verb. The paper interprets them in the light of the main competing positions of Czech enclitics during the development of the language: 1. the postinitial position, i.e. when an enclitic is located after the first word / phrase; 2. the contact (verb-adjacent) position, i.e. when an enclitic is located immediately before (preverbal position) or after (postverbal position) its syntactically or morphologically superordinate item. The lecture discusses this developmental competition in the light of following factors:

- influence of style;
- influence of rhythmic rules;
- influence of the complexity of the clause;
- influence of the Latin source text, i. e. the Vulgata.