

Summary

THE DISTRIBUTION OF (NON-)SYLLABIC PRESENT TENSE FORMS OF THE VERB *BÝTI* IN THE SECOND-PERSON SINGULAR IN OLD CZECH

The article follows previous works investigating Old Czech (en)clitics based on empirical language data. It focuses specifically on the 2_{SG} present tense forms of *býti* “to be”, bearing lexical and grammatical functions in terms of their distribution in Old Czech texts from fourteenth and fifteenth century prose. The results confirm previous observations, that is, the encliticness of the present tense “be” in the grammatical function. The study also demonstrates that the formal factor needs to be accounted for. Within the non-syllabic form of *s*, the form outplays the function as both grammatical and lexical verbs/auxiliaries are enclitic. Within the syllabic form of *(j)si*, however, only the grammatical auxiliary is enclitic, whereas lexical *(j)si* is attested to in non-clitic contexts several times. The latter can thus be perceived as a non- or semi-clitic. Interestingly, none of the forms manifest affixal behaviour in Old Czech which contrasts with the contemporary Czech situation where non-syllabic *s* behaves, at least in some cases, as an affix.

Keywords: affix; clitic; clitic cluster; grammaticalization; Old Czech; present tense *be*

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