



OLD ROMANCE PLACE NAMES IN EARLY SOUTH SLAVIC AND LATE PROTO-SLAVIC SOUND CHANGES¹

1 INTRODUCTION

The article analyses Old Romance geographical names borrowed and integrated into early South Slavic. The late Proto-Slavic sound changes which were still operative during the first Romance-Slavic language contacts after the settling of the Slavs in the Balkan Peninsula, the Pannonian Basin and eastern Alps in the second half of the 6th century and the beginning of the 7th century will be categorized and chronologically ordered with the help of Romance-Slavic substitutional phonology.

1.1 Slavic migration to the Balkan Peninsula, the Pannonian Basin and the eastern Alps

The most likely answer to the Proto-Slavic homeland question seems to be the so-called North-Carpathian theory, which argues rather convincingly that the homeland of the Slavs should be placed to the North of the Carpathian Mountains, i.e. the North-Carpathian basin. The approximate borders of this language community would be the upper course of the Dniester and Vistula rivers in the West, the Pripyat river in the North, and the middle course of the Dnieper in the East (Gimbutas 1971: 80; Udolph 1979: 619–623). It is generally believed that the Slavic migration towards the North-East, North-West and South-West should be placed at around 500 AD. This migration wave did not include a south-eastern movement, however. As can be predicted, the colonization of the new territory resulted in more or less direct contact with the different non-Slavic languages.

The Slavs began their south-western move towards the eastern Carpathians together with the Avars. They reached the Balkan Peninsula, the Pannonian Basin and the eastern Alps in the 6th century AD. In the southern part of the Balkans they first came into contact with Greek, while in the rest of the Balkans, the Pannonian plain and the eastern Alpine region they encountered the Old Romance stratum. As far as the eastern Alps are concerned, the 8th century was dominated by the equally extensive interaction

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1 A more comprehensive account of the Slavic language contact with the non-Slavic idioms is presented in Šekli 2014: 201–300. For the Slovene version of the article cf. Šekli 2015.

with Old High German (Old Bavarian), while the Hungarian-Slavic contacts in the Pannonian Basin are not older than the 9th century AD.

The Slavs settled the newly conquered territories of South-Eastern Europe in the second half of the 6th century. At the start of the 7th century, during the rule of Gregory the First (590–604 AD), the colonization wave had already reached as far as the Adriatic coast (Kos 1955: 44–49). During the colonization of the Romance/Romanized territory several place names were borrowed into Slavic from the Romance speaking population, primarily but not exclusively those of the near coastal area. These integrations usually involve the adoption of Romance names for the strategically more prominent geographical objects such as larger rivers and urban settlements.

1.2 Balkan Romance vs. Alpine Romance

At the time of the Slavic occupation of the south-eastern part of the Romance linguistic area the Slavs conquered the territory to the north of the Romance-Greek language border also known as the Jireček line. Note that Latin inscriptions of the Balkan provinces reach in the south the ancient towns of *Ulpiana/Ulpianum* (8 km to the south of present-day Priština), *Scupi* (4 km to the north-east of present-day Skopje city centre), *Naissus* (present day Niš in Serbia) and *Remesiana* (present-day Bela Palanka in Serbia), in *Thracia Superior*, and a number of ancient settlements around the Danube delta in *Thracia Inferior* (Solta 1980: 64–65).

By the time of the earliest Slavic-Romance contacts (6th century AD) two clearly distinguishable Old Romance geoclects had already developed from Vulgar Latin, i.e. North-West Romance (the predecessor of Alpine, North-Italic or Gallo-Italic, Gallic and Iberian Romance) and South-East Romance (the direct ancestor of Balkan Romance and Central-South Italic Romance). The distinguishing isogloss dividing the two dialects runs vertically through the Apennine Mountains, following the so-called La Spezia–Rimini line, and horizontally through present-day Koper/Capodistria, Solkan and Villach/Beljak.²

The defining characteristics of South-East Romance are the preservation of Latin voiceless stops in voiced environment (i.e. between vowels or between a vowel and a resonant) and the loss of final -s, while the diametrically opposed situation is true of North-West Romance: lenition (voicing → spirantization → loss) of Latin voiceless stops in voiced environments and the preservation of Latin final -s. Examples: Lat. Asg *rota(m)* ‘wheel’ > Standard Italian *ruota*, Romanian *roată* vs. Friulian *ruede*, Venetian Italian *roda*, *rioda*, Sardinian *roda*, Catalan *roda*, Spanish *rueda*, Portuguese *roda*, Old French *rode* > French *roue*; Lat. 2sg pres. ind. *cantās* ‘you sing’ > Friulian *cjantis*, Sardinian *cantas*, Catalan *cantes*, Spanish *cantas*, Portuguese *cantas*, Occitan *cantas*, French *chantes* vs. Standard Italian *canti*, Romanian *cântă*; Lat. Apl *rotās* ‘wheels’ > Friulian *ruedis*, Sardinian *rodas*, Catalan *rodes*, Spanish *ruedas*, Portuguese *rodas*,

2 However, Trieste/Trst and Gail/Zilja lie to the west of the Koper/Capodistria–Solkan–Villach/Beljak isogloss but clearly display the phonetic characteristics typical of South-East Romance (Balk. Rom. **Tērgeste* → Sl. **Tbr̥z̥estъ*; Balk. Rom. **Gīla* → Sl. **Zīla*).

Occitan *rodas*, Old French *rodes* > French *roues* vs. Standard Italian *ruote*, Romanian *roți*) (Wartburg 1950: 32; Skubic 1989: 97, 100).

On the other hand, the Koper/Capodistria–Solkan–Villach/Beljak isogloss separates the two linguistic areas with a different set of reflexes for plain velars **k*, **g* before front vowels. Accordingly, Slavic substitutions *č, *ž normally occur to the west of this line (Lat. Asg *cīvītāte(m)* ‘town’ > Rom. **Kēvetāte* > Alp. Rom. **Čēvedāde* (> Friulian *Cividāt*) → Sl. **Čēvādadъ* > dial. Sln. (Natisone/Nadiža) *Čēvdād* ‘a city in Friuli; Standard Sln. *Čedad*, Friulian *Cividāt*, Italian *Cividale*; Lat. Asg *silice(m)* ‘hard stone, rock, flint’ → Asg **silicētu(m)* ‘where hard stone, rock, flint is’ > Rom. **Sēlēkētu* > Alp. Rom. **Sēlegēdu* > **Sēležēdu* → Sl. **Sēlbžidъ* > dial. Sln. (Soča/Isonzo) *Suzid* ‘a place in the Upper Soča Valley’). The reflexes *č, *ž, which are the outcomes of the second Slavic palatalization of velars (cf. 2.6), are only found to the east of the isogloss.³

In the south, Slavic came into direct contact with both Balkan Romance (Lat. *acētum* ‘vinegar’ > Rom. **akētu* > Balk. Rom. **akētu* → PSl. **okъtъ* > **ocъtъ* ‘vinegar’) and Alpine Romance (Lat. Asg *cruce(m)* ‘cross’ > Rom. **krōke* > Alp. Rom. **krōge* > **krōže* → PSl. **križъ* ‘cross’). The borrowing of common and proper names therefore progresses from both sources. Note that if the Old Romance source has no voiceless stops occurring in a voiced environment and/or no **k^E*, **g^E* sequences (e.g. Lat. Apl *Kalendās* ‘first day of the month’ > Rom. **kalendās* → PSl. **kolęda* ‘New Year, celebration of the New Year’), the distinction between the two sources is not always easily disambiguated.

2 LATE PROTO-SLAVIC SOUND CHANGES

The following were late Proto-Slavic sound changes (listed in approximate chronological order): loss of final consonants, simplification of consonant clusters, development of prothetic consonants, first regressive palatalization of velars, simplification of *j*-clusters, delabialization of rounded vowels (umlaut), monophthongization, second regressive palatalization of velars, the rise of nasal vowels (nasalization), progressive palatalization of velars, delabialization of **ū* > **y*, labialization of **a* > **o*, reduction of vowels (**i*, **u* > **b*, **v*) (Shevelov 1964: 187–390; Šekli 2014: 201–300). The majority of these sound changes were still operative at the time of the earliest Romance-Slavic language contacts, but some postdate the earliest phases of lexical and toponymic borrowing.

2.1 Simplification of consonant clusters

The Old Romance consonant cluster **ps* corresponds by South Slavic **s*: Rom. **ps* → Sl. **s* (Lat. *Apsarum* > Balk. Rom. **Apsaru* → Sl. **Osorъ* > Čak. *Osör* ‘a town on

3 For a discussion of the phenomenon cf. Skok 1926: 386; Ramovš 1926/27: 154–155, 160–165; Šturm 1927: 45–47, 1928: 22–24; Grad 1958, 1969; Skubic 1989: 101; Furlan 2002: 32–33. See Repanšek 2014 for a recent reappraisal of the data.

the island of Cres'; Lat. **Sampsichum* > Balk. Rom. **Sampsiku* → Sl. ***Sqsъkъ** > Čak. *Sūsak* 'an island in the Gulf of Kvarner'). This seems to confirm the fact that the Proto-Slavic simplification of consonant clusters was still an ongoing process at the time of the borrowing: PSl. **ps* > **s*.

2.2 Development of prothetic consonants

The integrated word-initial **ū-* nearly always generates a prothetic consonant **v-* in South Slavic: Rom. **ū-* → Sl. **uū-* > **vy-* (Lat. *Utinum* > Alp. Rom. **Ūdēnu* (> Friulian *Udin*) → Sl. ***(V)ydъnъ** > Dial. Sln. *Vidən* 'a city in Friuli; Standard Sln. *Videm*, Friulian *Udin*, Italian *Udine*).⁴ This means that at the time of the borrowing the development of the Proto-Slavic prothetic **y-* in front of word-initial high back vowels **ū-* and **u-* was not yet completed: PSl. **ū-*, **u-* > **uū-*, **uu-* > **vy-*, **vb-*.

2.3 Simplification of *j*-clusters

Proto-Slavic palatal consonants **C'* are systematically substituted for Old Romance consonant clusters **Cj*: Rom. **Cj* → Sl. **C'* (Lat. *Durachium* > Balk. Rom. **Dorākiu* → Sl. ***Dvračъ** > Štok. *Drāč* 'Durrës, a city at the Adriatic coast in Albania'; Lat. **Plagia* (← Greek *πλάγιος* 'oblique, inclined') > Balk. Rom. **Plāgja* → Sl. ***Plаža** > Čak. *Plаža* 'a town on the island of Hvar'; Lat. *Arsia* > Balk. Rom. **Arsia* → Sl. ***Orša** > Čak. *Rаša* 'a river in Istria'; Lat. *Carnium* > Balk. Rom. **Karnju* → Sl. ***Korńb** > Sln. *Kránj* 'a town in the Gorenjska/Upper Carniola region'; Rom. **Castelliōne(m)* > Balk. Rom. Asg **Kasteljōne* → Sl. ***Kostyłunъ** > Čak. *Košljūn* 'a small island in the Punat Bay on the island of Krk'; Lat. *Tragurium* > Balk. Rom. **Tragūrju* → Sl. ***Trogyrъ** > Čak. *Trogīr* 'a town in Southern Dalmatia'). The Proto-Slavic simplification of *j*-clusters evidently took place *after* the borrowing of these place names into South Slavic.

2.4 Delabialization of rounded vowels (umlaut)

Slavic appears to have delabialized all rounded vowels of the *u*-type after palatal consonants and *r*:⁵ Rom. **C'ō/*rO* → Sl. **C'E/*rE* (Lat. *Iūdaeus* 'Jude' > Rom. **Žūdēus* (?) → Sl. **Žydъ* > **Židъ* 'Jude' (> OCS *Žid-inъ* 'Jude'); Lat. *crux* 'cross', Asg *crucem* > Rom. **krōke* > Alp. Rom. **krōge* > **krōže* → PSl. **kryžb* > **križb* 'cross' (> OCS *križb* 'cross'). Among the place names which further attest to such a process there is, for instance, the exonym Sl. **Rimъ* 'Rome' (Lat. *Rōma* > Rom. **Rōma* → Sl. **Rymъ* > ***Rimъ** (> OCS *Rimъ*)).

4 From the lexical fond cf. Lat. *hortus* 'garden' > Balk. Rom. **ortu* → Sl. ***(v)ъrtъ** 'garden' (> OCS **vrъtvъ*, Sln. *vrt*).

5 It is less probable that the forms such as **križb* and **Rimъ* reflect early (7th–8th) South-Slavic phonology. Accordingly, the Proto-Slavic **y* would have been decentralized rather early in the south (cf. Bezlaj 1995: 180). However, the phonetic distinction between **y* and **i* in South Slavic is still present in the second half of the 9th century by Old Church Slavic (863–885) and the subsequent merger cannot in fact be earlier than the second half of the 10th century as evidenced by the Freising Monuments (972–1039 AD).

2.5 Monophthongization

Proto-Slavic tautosyllabic sequences **oj*, **ov* are substituted for the corresponding Old Romance diphthongs **ai*, **au*: Rom. **aiC*, **auC* → Sl. **ojC*, **ovC* (Lat. **Laurentium* > Balk. Rom. **Laurentiu* > **Laurenču* → Sl. **Lovręć* > Čak. *Lovrěc* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. **Tauriana* > Balk. Rom. **Taurjāna* → Sl. **Tovřanъ* > Štok. *Tovrljan* ‘a river in the vicinity of Niš’).⁶ This phenomenon attests to the likelihood of the integration of the place names largely postdating monophthongization.

2.6 Second regressive palatalization of velars

Notably, Old Romance velar stops **k*, **g* before front vowels were not integrated into South Slavic as **č*, **ž*, but as **c* and **ʒ*: Rom. **k^E*, **g^E* → Sl. **c*, **ʒ* (Lat. *Celeia* > Rom. **Kelēja* > Balk. Rom. **Kelēja* → Sl. **Čelјe* > Sln. *Célje* ‘a town in the south of the Štarjerska region’; Lat. *Crexi* (written as Greek *Kρέψα*) > Balk. Rom. **Kresu* ≥ **Kersu* (after metathesis **re* ≥ *er*) (> Dalmatian **Kerso* → Italian *Cherso*) → Sl. **Čersъ* > NW Čak. *Crès* ‘an island in the Gulf of Kvarner’; Lat. *Centōna* > Balk. Rom. **Kentōna* → Sl. **Četyna* > Štok. *Cètina* ‘a river in Southern Dalmatia’; Lat. Asg *Cīvitāte(m)* > Balk. Rom. **Kevētāte* → Sl. **Čibbūtatъ* > Štok. *Càptat*, *Càvtat* ‘a town in Southern Dalmatia’; Balk. Rom. **Gila* → Sl. **Zilā* > Sln. *Zilja* ‘a river in the eastern Alps; Germ. *Gail*'; Lat. *Genta* > Balk. Rom. **Genta* → Sl. **Žeta* > Štok. *Zeta* ‘a river in Montenegro’). These data indirectly provide important evidence in support of the hypothesis that by the time of extensive Romance-Slavic language contacts the first regressive palatalization of velars had already been concluded but that the second Slavic regressive palatalization of velars was still an ongoing change (evidently in front of all (new) front vowels).

2.7 Rise of nasal vowels

The South Slavic reflexes of the Old Romance sequences **ENC*, **ONC* systematically appear as **eC*, **oC*: Rom. **ENC*, **ONC* → Sl. **eC*, **oC* (Lat. *Parentium* > Balk. Rom. **Parentiu* > **Parenču* → Sl. **Porečъ* > Čak. *Poreč* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. *Carantanum* > Balk. Rom. **Karantānu* → Sl. **Korqtanъ* > Sln. *Korotàn* ‘Carinthia’). Note, however, that strictly speaking these equations only prove that during the integration of such sequences into South Slavic the latter must surely have had nasal elements, but it is not entirely clear whether these nasal elements should be interpreted as bi-phonemic sequences **ENC*, **ONC* or rather as already fully developed nasal vowels **eC*, **oC*.

2.8 Progressive palatalization of velars

Old Romance **k*, **g* after front vowels were reflected in South Slavic as **c* and **ʒ*, respectively: Rom. **E^Ek*, **E^Eg* → Sl. **c*, **ʒ* (Lat. *Longaticum* > Balk. Rom. **Longātēku*

6 One possible exception is Lat. *Poetovio* > Balk. Rom. **Poetoju* → Sl. **Pbtojъ* > Sln. *Ptúj*. It is probable that the Slavs encountered this place name earlier than the names of other settlements on the Adriatic coast and elsewhere in the Balkans.

→ Sl. **Logatъcъ* > Sln. *Logatъc*; Lat. *Serdica* > Balk. Rom. **Serdѣka* → Sl. **Serdъcъ* > CS *Srѣdъcъ* (an old denomination of present-day Sofia)). It seems likely that these sequences were borrowed before the Slavic progressive palatalization of velars took place.

2.9 Delabialization of *ū₁ > *y

Slavic *y is normally substituted for Old Romance *ū: Rom. *ū/*ō → Sl. *y (Lat. **Alluvium* > Balk. Rom. **Allūviu* → Sl. **Olybъ* > Čak. *Olib* ‘an island in the Zadar archipelago’; Lat. **Glemōna* (ca. 610 in *Glemona*) > Alp. Rom. **Glemōna* (> Friulian *Glemone*) → Sl. **Glymynъ* > Dial. Sln. *Gumín* ‘a town in Friuli; Standard Sln. *Gumin*, Friulian *Glemone*, It. *Gemonia*; Lat. *Salōna* > Balk. Rom. **Salōna* → Sl. **Solynъ* > Čak. *Soln* ‘a town in Southern Dalmatia’). This type of substitution clearly points to the fact that the Proto-Slavic process of delabialization of *ū₁ towards *y postdates the earliest Romance-Slavic language contacts.

2.10 Labialization of *a > *o

Old Romance *a is matched by South Slavic *o: Rom. *a → Sl. *o (Lat. *Aquileia* > Alp. Rom. **Agolēja* (> Friulian *Aolee* > *Olée* arch.) → Sl. **Ogъlějъ* > Sln. *Oglěj* ‘a town in Friuli’; Lat. *Capra* > Balk. Rom. **Kapra* → Sl. **Koprъ* > Sln. *Kópær* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. *Cattarum* > Balk. Rom. **Kattaru* → Sl. **Kotorъ* > Štok. *Kòtor* ‘a town in Montenegro’). The typically Slavic sound change *a > *o clearly reflects a later, Common Slavic process.

2.11 Vowel reduction of *i, *u > *b, *v

Old Romance *e, *o are reflected as Slavic *b, *v: Lat. *i/*e, *u/*o > Rom. *e, *o → Sl. *b, *v (Lat. *turris* ‘tower’ → Balk. Rom. **Torre* → Sl. **Tvrьbъ* > Čak. *Tär* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. *Muccurum* > Balk. Rom. **Møkkoru* → Sl. **Mъkъrvъ* > Čak. *Makär* ‘a town in Southern Dalmatia’; Lat. Asg *Tergeste(m)* > Balk. Rom. **Tergëste* → Sl. **Tvržbystъ*, Gsg **Tvržbysta* > Sln. **Tärzast* ≥ *Tärst*, Gsg **Tärzsta* > *Tärsta* ‘a coastal town in Northern Istria; Italian *Trieste*; Lat. Asg *Pinguente(m)* > Balk. Rom. **Pengente* ≥ **Pelgentе* (with dissimilation *n-n ≥ l-n) → Sl. **Bvłžetъ* > Dial. Sln. (Istria) *Buzet*, Čak. *Buzet* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. *Ad Portulam* > Balk. Rom. **Adpɔrtola* → Sl. **Opъrtvňbъ* > Čak. *Opрталј* ‘a town in Istria’; Lat. **Curicum* (← gr. *Κούρικον*) > Balk. Rom. **Koreku* → Sl. **Kvрvkbъ* > Čak. *Krk* ‘an island in the Gulf of Kvarner’). The Proto-Slavic vowel reduction of the type *i, *u > *b, *v surely is a much later process.

2.12 Liquid metathesis

Old Romance sequences *CaRC, *CeRC (where *R = *r, *l) are reflected as Slavic /*CoRC, *CeRC/ [*CaRC, *CeRC]: Rom. *CaRC, *CeRC → Sl. /*CoRC, *CeRC/ [*CaRC, *CeRC] (Lat. *Arba* > Balk. Rom. **Arba* → Sl. **Orbъ* > Čak. *Ràb* ‘an island in the Gulf of Kvarner’; Lat. **Albanta* > Balk. Rom. **Albanta* → Sl. **Olbotъ* > Sln. *Lábot* (860 ad *Labantam*) ‘a town in the Jauntal/Podjuna Valley in Southern Carinthia/ Koroška, Germ. *Lavamünd*'; Lat. **Carsum* > Balk. Rom. **Karsu* → Sl. **Korsъ* > Sln.

Krǎs ‘a region in the Slovene coastal area’; Lat. *Scardōna* > Balk. Rom. **Skardōna* → Sl. **Skordynъ* > Čak. *Skradīn* ‘a town in Central Dalmatia’; Lat. *Syrmium* > Balk. Rom. **Sermium* (?) → Sl. **Sermъ* > Štok. *Srijēm*, *Srēm* ‘a region to the east of the Croation region of Slavonia’; Lat. *Melita* > Balk. Rom. **Melta* → Sl. **Meltъ* > Štok. *Mlјēt* ‘an island in Southern Dalmatia’). The analysed material unambiguously points to the fact that liquid metathesis followed in the wake of the first Slavic-Romance contacts.

3 CONCLUSION

The analysis of Old Romance place names integrated into early South Slavic shows that the majority of the late Proto-Slavic sound changes were still in progress at the time of the first Old Romance-Slavic language contacts. On the other hand, Slavic substitutions **c*, **ʒ* and **ovC* for the Romance sequences **k^E*, **g^E* and **auC*, respectively, point to the fact that two characteristic processes, i.e. the first regressive palatalization of velars and monophthongization, had already been completed. The progression of the remaining set of late Proto-Slavic (or better Common Slavic) sound changes was either contemporary with the oldest integrations or it may have postdated the earliest Romance-Slavic contacts altogether.

(Balkan) Romance	(Proto-)Slavic	Examples
*ps	→ *s	Rom. <i>*Apsaru</i> → Sl. <i>*Osorъ</i>
*ū	→ *vy	Rom. <i>*Ūdenu</i> → Sl. <i>*(V)ydъnъ</i>
*k̥i	→ *č	Rom. <i>*Dorākiu</i> → Sl. <i>*Dъračъ</i>
*gi	→ *ž	Rom. <i>*Plāgia</i> → Sl. <i>*Plаža</i>
*si	→ *š	Rom. <i>*Arsja</i> → Sl. <i>*Orša</i>
*ni	→ *ń	Rom. <i>*Karniu</i> → Sl. <i>*Korńb</i>
*li	→ *l̥	Rom. <i>*Kastelišõne</i> → Sl. <i>*Kostъlunъ</i>
*ri	→ *ř	Rom. <i>*Tragūriu</i> → Sl. <i>*Trogýrb</i>
*C'ū	→ *C'i	Rom. <i>*Žūdēus</i> (?) → Sl. <i>*Židъ</i>
*rō	→ *ri	Rom. <i>*Rōma</i> → Sl. <i>*Rimъ</i>
*auC	→ *ovC	Rom. <i>*Laurentju</i> → Sl. <i>*Lovręčъ</i>
*k ^E	→ *c ^E	Rom. <i>*Keleja</i> → Sl. <i>*Celъje</i>
*g ^E	→ *z ^E	Rom. <i>*Gila</i> → Sl. <i>*Zilā</i>
*ENC	→ *eC	Rom. <i>*Parentju</i> → Sl. <i>*Porečъ</i>
*ONC	→ *oC	Rom. <i>*Karantānu</i> → Sl. <i>*Korotanъ</i>
*ikV	→ *bcV	Rom. <i>*Longātiku</i> → Sl. <i>*Logatъcъ</i>
*ū/*ō	→ *y	Rom. <i>*Allūvju</i> → Sl. <i>*Olybъ</i>
*a	→ *o	Rom. <i>*Kapra</i> → Sl. <i>*Koprъ</i>
i > *e	→ *b	Rom. <i>*Koreku</i> → Sl. <i>*Kvrbъkъ</i>
u > *o	→ *b	Rom. <i>*Torre</i> → Sl. <i>*Tvrъ</i>
*(C)aRC	→ *(C)oRC	Rom. <i>*Karsu</i> → Sl. <i>*Korsъ</i>
*CeRC	→ *CeRC	Rom. <i>*Melta</i> → Sl. <i>*Meltъ</i>

Table 1: Late Proto-Slavic sound changes through the prism of Old Romance place names borrowed into early South Slavic.

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Summary

OLD ROMANCE PLACE NAMES IN EARLY SOUTH SLAVIC AND LATE PROTO-SLAVIC SOUND CHANGES

The analysis of Old Romance geographical names in early South Slavic confirms that the majority of late Proto-Slavic sound changes were still operative in the period of the earliest Old Romance-Slavic language contacts in the Balkan Peninsula and eastern Alps from the second half of the 6th century and the beginning of the 7th century onwards. Phonetic substitutions of the type Rom. *k^E, *g^E → Sl. *c, *ž (Balk. Rom. *Kersu → Sl. *Cersv, Balk. Rom. *Gila → Sl. *Zila) and Rom. *ayC → Sl. *ovC (Balk. Rom. *Laurentju > *Laurenču → Sl. *Lovręčv) point to the fact that the first palatalization of velars as well as the monophthongization of the inherited diphthongs were no longer among the ongoing processes. All other late Proto-Slavic sound changes were either still operative or only took place after the borrowing. This is confirmed by the relative chronology of the following set of Romance-Slavic correspondences: simplification of consonant clusters: Rom. *ps → Sl. *s (Balk. Rom. *Apsaru → Sl. *Osorv), development of prosthetic consonants: Rom. *ū- → Sl. *uū- > *vy- (Alp. Rom. *Uđenu → Sl. *(V)ydbenv), simplification of j-clusters: Rom. *Ci → Sl. *C' (Balk. Rom. *Arsja → Sl. *Orša), delabialization of *ō after *r: Rom. *rō → Sl. *ry > *ri (Rom. *Rōma → Sl. *Rymb > *Rimv), second regressive palatalization of velars (see above Sl. *Cersv, *Zila), rise of nasal vowels: Rom. *ENC, *ONC → Sl. *qC, *qC (Balk. Rom. *Parentju > *Parencu → Sl. *Poręčv, Balk. Rom. *Karantānu → Sl. *Korętanv), progressive palatalization of velars: Rom. *k^E, *g^E → Sl. *c, *ž (Balk. Rom. *Longātēku → Sl. *Logatēcv), delabialization of *ū₁ > *y: Rom. *ū/*ō → Sl. *y (Balk. Rom. *Allūvju → Sl. *Olybv), labialization of *a > *o: Rom. *a → Sl. *o (Balk. Rom. *Kapra → Sl. *Kopr), vowel reduction of *i, *u > *b, *v: Rom. *e, *o → Sl. *b, *v (Balk. Rom. *Koręku → Sl. *Kvrbkv, Balk. Rom. *Tōrre → Sl. *Tvr̥v).

Keywords: Old Romance geographical names, Old Romance, South Slavic, Proto-Slavic, Proto-Slavic sound changes

Povzetek

STAROROMANSKA ZEMLJEPISNA IMENA V ZGODNJI JUŽNI SLOVANŠČINI IN POZNOPRASLOVANSKE GLASOVNE SPREMEMBE

Glasoslovna analiza staroromanskih zemljepisnih imen v zgodnji južni slovanščini potrjuje, da je bila večina pozopraslovenskih glasovnih sprememb v času najstarejših romansko-slovanskih jezikovnih stikov na Balkanskem polotoku in vzhodnih Alpah v drugi polovici 6. stoletja in v začetku 7. stoletja še vedno v teku. Glasovni substituciji tipa rom. *k^E, *g^E → sl. *c, *ž (balk. rom. *Kersu → sl. *Cersv, balk. rom. *Gila → sl. *Zila) in rom. *ayC → sl. *ovC (balk. rom. *Laurentju > *Laurenču → sl. *Lovręčv) potrjujeta, da starejša regresivna (prva) palatalizacija velarov in monofthongizacija diphthongov nista bili več v teku. Vse ostale pozopraslovenske glasovne spremembe pa so

ali bile v teku ali pa je do njih prihajajo po prevzemanju, kar potrjujejo naslednje romansko-slovanske glasovne substitucije, in sicer poenostavitev soglasniških sklopov: rom. **ps* → sl. **s* (balk. rom. **Apsaru* → sl. **Osorъ*), nastanek protetičnih drsnikov: rom. **ū-* → sl. **uū-* > **vy-* (alp. rom. **Ūdēnu* → sl. *(*V*)*ydъnъ*), jotacija: rom. **Ci* → sl. **C'* (balk. rom. **Arsja* → sl. **Orša*), preglas **q̥* v položaju z *r*: rom. **rq̥* → sl. **ry* > **ri* (rom. **Rōma* → sl. **Rymъ* > **Rimъ*), mlajša regresivna (druga) palatalizacija velarov (prim. zgoraj sl. **Cersъ*, **Žila*), nazalizacija: rom. **ENC*, **ONC* → sl. **ɛC*, **qC* (balk. rom. **Parentju* > **Parenču* → sl. **Porečbъ*, balk. rom. **Karantānu* → sl. **Korqtanъ*), progresivna (tretja) palatalizacija velarov: rom. **ɛk*, **ɛg* → sl. **c*, **ʒ* (balk. rom. **Longātēku* → sl. **Ləgatъcъ*), delabializacija of **ū*, **u* > **y*: rom. **ū*/*q̥* → sl. **y* (balk. rom. **Allūvju* → sl. **Olybъ*), labializacija **a* > **o*: rom. **a* → sl. **o* (balk. rom. **Kapra* → sl. **Koprъ*), redukcija **i*, **u* > **b*, **v*: rom. **ɛ*, **ɔ* → sl. **b*, **v* (bak. rom. **Koreku* → sl. **Kvrvkъ*, balk. rom. **Torre* → sl. **Tvrvъ*).

Ključne besede: staroromanska zemljepisna imena, stara romanščina, južna slovanščina, praslovanščina, praslovanske glasovne spremembe