# Materials for an Etymological Dictionary of Pomoranian

## Introduction

This work encapsulates comparative data from a short monograph on North-Lekhitic accentology (Bogatyrev 1995) focusing primarily on a partly extinct group of dialects known for a number of archaic features, including variable stress.

The most detailed description of a Pomoranian dialect (Lorentz 1903, 1908, 1912) documents several closely related idioms collectively known as Slovincian that were spoken at the time by a few hundred people and are currently presumed extinct. Lorentz’ transcription represents sounds of a dying language with amazing precision, but is very difficult to reproduce, a factor that played no small part in the slow pace of adoption of Pomoranian data in Slavic accentology. With this in mind, I attempted to produce a systematic overview of available material with Slovincian data rendered in a simplified transcription.

As one would expect, Slovincian stress patterns turned out to be coordinated with the existing historico-comparative reconstruction of the Proto-Slavic accent, although not as closely as the data from South and East Slavic manuscripts and other earlier sources investigated by Vladimir Dybo, Andrey Zaliznyak, and their students. Combined with another archaic feature, the distinction between the so-called “narrow” and “non-narrow” vowels, the former reflecting old West Slavic lengths, Pomoranian and, in particular, Slovincian, proved to be a useful resource confirming and, in some cases, clarifying existing accentological reconstructions.

However, it occurred to me that, while somewhat helpful in accentological research, the book’s material might be more effective if it were recast as a mini-etymological dictionary. It could then function as an add-on to the existing, much larger collections of comparative data, such as Derksen 2008. A narrow focus on a particular group of dialects may help identify accentological and phonemic peculiarities that are easy to overlook in an all-encompassing etymological dictionary.

Last but not least, this publication provided me with an opportunity to correct serious errors and omissions. In addition to typos in several etymological entries, they include missing bibliographic items, most egregiously, a reference to Križanić's grammatical treatise (Križanić 1859), as well as incomplete and occasionally erroneous rules that explain correspondences between Lorentz’ transcription and the simplified spelling. I take this opportunity to apologize to the readers and publishers of the original text for unintentional confusion that this may have caused.

On a more pleasant note, I would like to acknowledge generous assistance from Philipp Krylov and Dr. Sergey Krylov who helped me convert the original manuscript from a custom source to a modern word processor format, Dr. Tijmen Pronk who reviewed South Slavic material and corrected errors in Slovene forms, and sincerely thank Professor Alexander Lubotsky for support and guidance. I am indebted to my colleagues whose help was instrumental in the publication of the original book, most importantly, to Dr. David Birnbaum, Sergey Bolotov, Dr. Rimma Bulatova, Dr. Vladimir Dybo, Dr. Vyacheslav Ivanov, Dr. Werner Lehfeldt , Dr. Sergey Nikolaev, Dr. Reinhold Olesch, Dr. Hans Rothe, Dr. Adam Suprun, and Dr. Andrey Zaliznyak.

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