Comparative Slavic Phonology

3000 years to 5th 6th century. substituted s,z for advanced k, g and x for old s preceded by r u k i. Western offsthoot of satem group. a=0 in this group. 9th -10th first Slavic states, first literature.

no aspiration (all IE thus if no h phoneme); voicing in C's front vs. back V and soft vs. hard syllables recasting of prothetic semivowels j, v jers loss of closed syllable diphthongs reshaped liquid diphthongs

new quantity new long short and rising falling pitch

qualitative oppositions for old quantity

differentiation: liquids, prothetic semivowels, jat' (from e and oi), tj, dj, x, palatalizations, j after labials, t, d before l and nasals; velars before reflex of woi; prosodic accented syllables.

East Slavic (details). BR not until 15th and Polish infl.

all West: tj, dj > hissing; all palatalizations of x > sh. No common exclusively South traits, except jons > en in South but e long in West and North.

Central S1: g > fricative. Jat' vasc. between e and i in central, on and en change to u and a.

Loss of jers, tenth to twelfth, from SW to NE. last common event. destroys syllable and forces prosodic reshaping.

New Slavic languages:

SC and Slov and North Kashubian maintain or restore pitch and quantity Cz and Slovak abolish rising pitch, fix accent, keep free quantity. Eslav and Bg abolish quantity for stress, tied with avoidance of V contraction; maintainence of quantity implies new longs due to contraction. middle zone: neither quantity nor stress: Polish, East Sk, Rusnak those languages without free stress and quantity, or with free stress.

These latter two have more cons and clusters, and the first group, more vowels. liquids syllabic only in pitch langs and CzSk. stress: reduce number of unstressed vowels. only these two above (no free stress or quantity, and free stress) allow double cons.

palatalization before front jer lost except in these two areas. If no palatalization, a palatal series of stops added

if stress, **rounding** is significant. in south, unrounded splits into front and back, Ukr and Bg distinguish unrounded front, unrounded back, rounded back.

Change of long vowels into decrescent diphtongs only in west – Cz, Polabian, Kashubian.