TRANSLATING CONNECTORS: THE CASE OF OLD CHURCH SLAVONIC

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Abstract: In this paper I will discuss the role of the Old Church Slavonic textual connector *že* ('Ø, and, but') in the structuring of discourse. The hypothesis that considers it an adversative/additive conjunction, established in the practice of lexicographers and grammarians, will be rejected and it will be shown that *že* is best defined as a development marker, since its core function is to signal the interruption of a preceding thematic chain and the beginning of a new one. Particular attention will be devoted to the mismatches between the Old Church Slavonic translation of the Gospel and its Greek *Vorlage*.

Keywords: Old Church Slavonic, textual connectors, discourse, translation, development marker.

1. INTRODUCTION

With the rise of pragmatic and functional approaches to language, the interest in particles has considerably increased, even in the branch of linguistics that is usually called Indo-European studies. Starting with Klein (1978) and Klein (1985) on Vedic, analyses aiming to study the function and the role played by particles in the text/discourse organization have been carried out mostly on Latin (Kroon 1995) and Ancient Greek (see Bonifazi *et al.* 2016, with bibliography, Denizot and Spevak 2017), but also on Gothic (Klein and Condon 1993, Ferraresi 2005, Klein 2018, Klein$_a$ to appear).

As far as Old Church Slavonic (OCS) is concerned, the literature is not so vast. In particular, researchers focused mostly on the connector *a* (Efimova 2000, 2004, Klein$_b$ to appear), while only a single work has been devoted to OCS *nъ* (Efimova 1997); as for the other connectors, not much work has been done in this field so far.

In this paper I will focus on OCS *že* (En. 'Ø, and, but'). After discussing some preliminary issues in Section 2, I will provide a fine-grained analysis of OCS *že* (Section 3), focusing especially on the mismatches between the Slavic and the Greek versions of the text. I will leave Section 4 for some general conclusions.

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2. PRELIMINARY REMARKS

2.1. Terminology

As it is known, one of the major problems that every research on particles has to face is a terminological one. Because of the variety of theories and methodologies employed in the study of particles, no consensus has been reached on what particles are and how they should be named. In this paper I will leave those terminological issues aside, and focus only on the terms that I will employ.

Particle will be a cover term for all those elements which may not contribute to the propositional, truth-conditional content of a clause (Kroon 2011: 176), while I will use the term *textual connector* to refer to those particles that have a specifically connective function, *i.e.* connecting the segment they appear in to another segment in the text. A textual connector increases the cohesion of a text and facilitates the process of decoding, making the relations holding between textual segments explicit and helping the hearer/reader with the segmentation of the text[2].

These textual segments are usually defined (at least in a *Discourse Grammar* framework) as *acts* and *move*s, where an act is "the smallest identifiable unit of communicative behaviour" (Kroon 1995: 65) and a move is "an autonomous monological contribution to a communicative interaction and may consist of only one act or of several related acts, which all may, but need not have the form of a full grammatical clause" (Kroon 2011: 182).

2.2. OCS and Greek: the corpus

OCS is the first documented Slavic language, with texts dating from the tenth to the end of the eleventh century[3]. The texts are virtually all translations from Greek and there is a certain pessimism in the literature about the possibility of separating Greek features from native Slavic ones (see *e.g.* MacRobert 1986, Večerka 1997). It should be noted, however, that the first translations of the Gospels are far from being slavish translations of the Greek *Vorlage*, as the employment of dual to render Greek plural forms, as well as supine and nominalizations to render Greek substantivized infinitives, shows (see Seliščev 1951: 29–31). As far as textual connectors are concerned, although most Greek connectors have regular translation equivalents (*δέ – že*, En. 'Ø, and, but'; *γάρ – bo*, En. 'for', 'since'; *οὖν – ubo*, En. 'therefore', 'then', etc.), these correspondences are far from absolute, as will be shown below.

For the analysis of *že* I used data from the *Codex Marianus*[4], a Glagolitic tetraevangelion in *scriptio continua*, showing some punctuation marks (mostly *puncti* and combinations of *puncti*). This choice was made mainly for two reasons: *Codex Marianus* is

[2] On discourse segmentation, see Bonifazi *et al.* 2016:IV.3.

[3] For more details, see Picchio 1991:103–143.

[4] In addition to *Codex Marianus,* the other manuscripts referred to in this paper are the following: *Codex Zographensis*, a Glagolitic tetraevangelion; *Codex Assemani*, a Glagolitic evangeliary; *Sava's Book*, a Cyrillic evangeliary. All these manuscripts are part of the OCS canon, and thus are of Macedonian or Bulgarian provenance and date back to the end of the 10th or beginning of the 11th century.

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one of the oldest translations of the Gospels (the equally archaic *Codex Zographensis* has more *lacunae*, and is therefore around 5000 words shorter) and, as said above, the oldest translations are more accomplished and show less Greek interference; the second reason is that Codex Marianus is available electronically with token-level alignments with the Greek source text in the TOROT treebank[5]. At this point, a caveat is in order: the Greek text used in the TOROT treebank is the Tischendorf edition. Unfortunately, we do not know the exact manuscripts from which *Marianus* was translated, but we do know that it shows more affinity with the Majority text (or Byzantine text-type) – see (1) and Metzger (1968) –, so all the instances of *že* in the *Marianus* have been checked against the Byzantine text-type[6].

(1) Mk 3,32
καὶ λέγουσιν αὐτῷ (Tischendorf)
rěšę **že** emu (Marianus)
εἶπον δὲ αὐτῷ (Byzantine text-type)

'And they told him.'

Here not only OCS *že* translates (as in the majority of cases) Greek *δέ*, but also the tense of the verb shows more affinity with the Byzantine text-type: while the Tischendorf edition has a present tense, both *Marianus* and the Byzantine text-type have an aorist. The affinity between *Codex Marianus* and the Byzantine text-type is even more evident from Table 1, where every occurrence of *že* in *Marianus* (N=1442) has been checked against its equivalent in both the Tischendorf and the Byzantine text-type editions.

Table 1.

Equivalents of *že* in the Tischendorf and in the Byzantine text-type editions

		Equivalents of *že*					
		δέ	καί	οὖν	τε	Other	No equivalent
Greek edition	Tischendorf	1071	55	168	10	11	127
	Byzantine	1173	16	176	10	9	58

The first row shows the Greek equivalents of OCS *že* in the Tischendorf edition, while the second one shows data from the Byzantine text-type. A Pearson χ^2 test for independence tells us that the two distributions are not equal ($\chi^2 = 52.18$, df = 5, p-value = 4.955e–10)[7]. The analysis of the standardized residuals shows that the cells contributing the most to the discrepancy between the two distributions are the ones in the columns '*δέ*', '*καί*' and 'no equivalent': in particular, we can see that the data in the Byzantine row are more consistent, since they have a positive value in the cell of *δέ* (4.57), while they have

[5] For the TOROT treebank (https://nestor.uit.no) see Eckhoff and Berdicevskis (2015). I would like to thank dr. H. M. Eckhoff for kindly providing me with the dataset.

[6] In the edition of Robinson and Pierpont (2005), accessible on biblehub.com; the English translation is the New International Version (NIV), accessible on biblehub.com; line breaks are indicated with a double slash (//), while headlines of paragraphs are in superscript.

[7] The null hypothesis that there is no association between the variable 'edition' and the variable 'equivalents of *že*' is tantamount to saying that the two distributions are equal, the variable 'edition' being futile to explain the variable 'equivalents of *že*'. Thus, rejecting the null hypothesis, we conclude that the two distributions are not equal.

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negative values in the other two cells (and namely –4.69 for *καί* and –5.24 for 'no equivalent'). In other words, in the Byzantine text-type we have more instances of *že* translating its regular equivalent *δέ*, and less instances of *že* translating *καί* or not having a Greek equivalent.

3. *ŽE*

Codex Marianus has 1442 occurrences of *že*. As already shown in Table 1, in the vast majority of cases (1173) it translates Greek *δέ*, En. 'Ø, and, but'; in 176 instances *οὖν*, En. 'then', 'therefore'; in 16 cases it translates Greek *καί*, En. 'and'; in 10 *τε*, En. 'and'; in 5 *μέν*, En. 'Ø', 'whereas'; in 2 instances *γάρ*, En. 'for', 'since'; in 1 *μέντοι*, En. 'yet', 'however', 'Ø'; in 1 *τότε*, En. 'at that time', 'then'; and in 58 cases it has no equivalent in the Greek text.

The *Slovník jazyka staroslověnského* (Kurz and Hauptová 1958) and the *Staroslavjanskij slovar': po rukopisjam X-XI vekov* (Cejtlin *et al.* 1999) describe *že* both as a conjunction with additive, adversative and copulative functions and as an intensifying particle. Vaillant (1977: 220) considers it to be a calque from Greek and Ickler (1977) defines it as a "marker of topic switch".

In general, *že* is the most generic of OCS textual connectors, since its constant lies in marking an advancement in the text: it has a purely intersentential function, like its Greek counterpart *δέ*, which is defined by Runge (2010: 18) as a *development marker*. It is used in monologues and in narrative sections and it is often combined with transitions in conversational turns within dialogic sections. It signals that what follows is to be interpreted as a distinct discourse unit or sub-unit (*i.e.* as a distinct move or act), as a progression in the plot or in the line of reasoning. As for Latin *autem* (En. 'but', 'however'), "its structuring role is based on a different coherence principle, that of continuity and discontinuity of the linear information structure. The linear information structure of a discourse naturally evolves along various concurrent thematic strands of information, involving continued reference to, for instance, the same person, location, time, situation, and circumstances" (Kroon 2011: 185). The interruption of one of those chains causes a transition in the discourse structure and the new thematic chain is formally marked, in OCS, by *že*.

In the remainder of this section I will briefly illustrate the 'canonical' case (*i.e.*, when OCS *že* translates Greek *δέ*) and then I will provide a more fine-grained analysis of the cases where there are mismatches between the OCS text and the Greek one.

(2) Lc 7,2–6 ‹2› Sъtъniku **že** eteru rabъ bolę zъlě umiraaše · iže bě emu čъstenъ · ‹3› slyšavъ **že** o ᵒisě · posъla kъ nemu staršcę ijudeisky · molę i da prišedъ ᵒspstъ raba ego · ‹4› oni **že** prišedъše kъ ᵒisvi · moleaxǫ i tъštъno ᵒϛtljǫšte ěko dostoinъ estъ · eže ašte dasi emu · ‹5› ljubitъ bo ᵒjęzkъ našъ · i sъnьmište tъ sъzъda namъ · ‹6› ᵒisъ **že** iděaše sъ nimi · ešte **že** emu nedaleče sǫštu otъ domu · posъla kъ nemu drugy sътьnikъ ᵒglę emu ·

‹2› There a centurion's **že** servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. ‹3› The centurion heard **že** of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ‹4› When they **že** came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, ‹5›

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because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." ‹6› So Jesus **že** went with them. // He was not far **že** from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him.

In this narrative section there are five *že* (corresponding to just as many δέ in the Greek text). The function fulfilled by *že* is that of segmenting the text into five different moves (roughly corresponding to the segmentation achieved in the translation by using full stops): a) there is a sick servant; b) the centurion sends for Jesus; c) the elders of the Jews talk with him; d) Jesus goes with them; e) the centurion sends his friends towards Jesus. Moreover, it can be noted that *že* is not to be considered a marker of topic switch (in v. 3 there is no topic switch, as confirmed by the ellipsis of the subject; similarly in v. 6): the frequent occurrence of *že* in situations of topic switch is nothing but a corollary of its more general function described here. It turns out to be even more evident in the next example.

(3) Mt 15,22–27 ‹22› i se žena xananeiska otъ prědělь těхъ išedъši · vъzъpi ᵒgljǫšti · […]· ‹23› onъ **že** ne otъvěšta ei slovese · I pristǫpьše učenici ego moleхǫ i ᵒgljǫšte · [...] · ‹24› onъ **že** otъvěštavъ reče · [...] · ‹25› ona **že** prišedъši pokloni sę emu ᵒglšti · [...] · ‹26› onъ **že** otъvěštavъ reče · [...] · ‹27› ona **že** reče […] ·

‹22› A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out […]. // ‹23› Jesus **že** did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him […]. // ‹24› He **že** answered […]. // ‹25› The woman **že** came and knelt before him. […] she said. // ‹26› He **že** replied […]. // ‹27› [...] she **že** said. […].

In dialogues *že* signals the alternation of the speakers' turns, as in (3). However, in v. 23 it may be observed that it signals a change neither of the topic, nor of the subject: had this been the function of *že*, we would have expected another one after *učenici* (En. 'disciples') – from the fact that the translator used *i* we may infer that v. 23 as a whole has to be considered a single move, formed by more than one act. Moreover, it should be noted that the third person pronoun *onъ* is always followed by *že* (at least in the Gospels): since OCS is a *pro-drop* language, the third person subject pronoun is used mainly as a contrastive topic (or as a focus), which is exactly what we would expect at the beginning of a new move. This employment of *že* with personal pronouns is what has led to the contrastive reading of this textual connector, which seems to be underspecified for this function.

(4) Mt 5,27–34 ‹27› Slyšaste ěko rečeno bys drevъnimъ · ne prěljuby sъtvoriši · ‹28› azъ **že** ᵒgljǫ vamъ · ěko vьsěkъ iže vьzьritъ na ženǫ sъ poxotijǫ · juže ljuby sъtvori sъ nejǫ vъ ᵒsrdci svoemъ · ‹29› ašte **že** oko tvoe desnoe sъblažnaatъ tę · izьmi e i vrъzi otъ tebe · uněe bo ti estъ da pogybletъ edinъ udъ tvoixъ · a ne vьse tělo tvoe vъvrъženo bǫdetъ vъ ǵeonǫ · ‹30› i ašte desna tvoě rǫka sъblažnaatъ tę uměci jǫ · i vrъzi otъ tebe · uněe bo ti estъ da pogybletъ edinъ udъ tvoixъ · a ne vьse tělo tvoe vъvrъženo bǫdetъ vъ ǵeonǫ ·⁘ ‹31› rečeno **že** bystъ · iže ašte pustitъ ženǫ svojǫ · da dastъ ei kъnigy raspustьnyję · ‹32› azъ **že** ᵒgljǫ vamъ · ěko vьsěkъ puštajęi ženǫ svojǫ razvě slovese ljuboděinaago · tvoritъ jǫ prěljuby děati · i iže posъpěgǫ poemletъ prěljuby tvoritъ · ‹33› paky slyšaste · ěko rečeno bys drevьniimъ · ne vъ lъžǫ klъneši sę · vъzdasi **že** ᵒgvi klętvy tvoję · ‹34› azъ **že** ᵒgljǫ vamъ · ne klęti sę otъnǫdъ ·

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> [Adultery] ‹27› “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ‹28› **But** (**že)** I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ‹29› If **že** your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ‹30› And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell. // [Divorce] ‹31› “It has been said **že**, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ ‹32› **But** (**že**) I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery. // [Oaths] ‹33› “Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, **but** (**že**) fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ ‹34› **But** (**že**) I tell you, do not swear an oath at all.

This is a passage from the ‘Sermon of the mount’, a collection of sayings and teachings of Jesus spanning from Mt 5,1 to Mt 7,29. In monologues, the subdivision into moves realized through *že* helps with the organization of the discourse: on the one hand, it helps the speaker to keep track of the various parts of the reasoning, on the other hand it helps the listener in the process of decoding. In particular, it should be underlined the adversative nuance deriving from the use of the first person pronoun (vv. 28, 32, 34); the employment of *paky* (En. ‘again’) instead of *že* in v. 33; the fact that vv. 29 and 30 are connected by means of *i*: this is so because the two verses constitute together a single move, where Jesus exemplifies how a man can commit adultery.

In the following, I will illustrate some cases where OCS *že* does not correspond to Greek *δέ*.

Out of 176 occurrences of *že* translating Greek *οἶν* (En. ‘then’, ‘therefore’), 164 are found in the Gospel of John[8].

(5) n 18,30–31 ‹30› otъvěštašę **že** (Ø) i rěšę emu · ašte ne bi byl҄ъ sь zъloděi · ne bimь prědali ego tebě · ‹31› reče **že** (*οἶν*) imъ pilatъ · poiměte i vy · i po zakonu vašemu sǫdite emu · rěšę **že** (*οἶν*) emu ijudei · ne dostoitъ namъ ubiti nikogože ·

> ‹30› “If he were not a criminal,” they **že** replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.” // ‹31› Pilate **že** said, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” // “But we have no right to execute anyone,” they **že** objected.

Codex Marianus has a lacuna spanning from Jn 18, 14 to Jn 18,29. Vv. 30–31 represent a dialogical sequence, with three exchanges between Pilate and the Jewish leaders who bring Jesus to him. The three turns, as in (3), are introduced by OCS *že*, while Greek has no connector in the first instance (see below) and in the other two instances employs *οἶν*, often said to be an inferential connector[9]. All the other instances of *že* instead of *οἶν* in the Gospel of John belong to the types seen in (2), (3) and (4). Although the translator could have used the regular equivalent to Greek *οἶν* (OCS *ubo*, which is a strong inferential

[8] The extensive use of *οἶν* from the author of the fourth Gospel is one of the features that led Abbot to write a separate grammar for the Gospel of John (Abbott 1906).

[9] For a short survey of the various interpretation that Greek *οἶν* has received, see Westfall (2016: 284–287).

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marker similar to English ‘therefore’), he rightly decided to employ OCS *že*, since the context was more appropriate.

In (6) I will illustrate the 11 instances of *že* instead of *oun* outside the Gospel of John.

(6) a. Lk 13,17–18 ‹17› […] ⁘ ᵒkc ⁘ ‹18› ᵒGlaaše **že** komu podobno estъ ᵒcsrstvie ᵒbžie · i komu upodobljǫ e ⁘
Then (**že**) Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to?”
b. Lk 3,7 ᵒglaaše **že** isxodęštiimъ narodomъ · krъstitъ sę otъ nego · ištędiě exidъnova · kъto sъkaza vamъ běžati otъ grędǫštaago gněva ·
John **že** said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?”
c. Mt 18,29 Padъ **že** klevrětъ moléaše i ᵒglę · potrъpi na mьně i vьse vьzdamь ti ·
“His fellow servant fell **že** to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’”
d. Mt 24,26 ašte **že** rekǫtъ vamъ · se vъ pustyni estъ · ne iziděte · se vъ sъkrovištixъ ne iměte věry ·
“**So** (**že**) if anyone tells you, ‘There he is, out in the wilderness,’ do not go out; or, ‘Here he is, in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it.”
e. Mt 27,17 sъbъravъšemъ **že** sę imъ · reče imъ pilatъ · kogo xoštete otъ oboju otъpuštju vamъ · varavvǫ li · ili ᵒisa naricaemaago ᵒxa ·
So (**že**) when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?”.
f. Mt 27,21–22 ‹21› otъvěštavъ že iǵemonъ reče imъ · kogo xoštete otъ oboju otъpuštǫ vamъ · oni že rěšę varavvǫ · ‹22› ᵒgla imъ pilatъ · čto **že** sъtvorjǫ ᵒisa naricaemaago ᵒxa · ᵒglašę emu vьsi · da propętъ bǫdetъ ·
‹21› “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor. “Barabbas”, they answered. ‹22› “What **že** shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” Pilate asked. They all answered, “Crucify him!”

(6.a) is the beginning of the ‘Parable of the mustard seed’. In many modern editions it is the introductory verse of a new paragraph and, according to the old way of segmenting the Gospel, it is the beginning of an Eusebian section as well[10]. Moreover, at the end of v. 17 *Marianus* has a cross-shaped interpunction sign with a ligature meaning ‘the end’ (⁘ᵒkc ⁘),

[10] Eusebian sections (also called Ammonian sections) are the system of dividing the four Gospels used between late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. It is traditionally believed that these divisions were devised by Ammonius of Alexandria, between the end of the 2nd century and the beginning of the 3rd. Every Gospel is divided into numbered paragraphs (Matthew having 355, Mark up to 241, Luke 342 and John 232) and these are written in the margin against the beginning of the section (Parker 2008: 315–316), with a second number which provided a cross-reference to parallel passages in other Gospels. In Slavic manuscripts, the Eusebian apparatus was used until the 17th century (Schenker 1995: 265 n. 334).

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explicitly signalling the end of the preceding section and thus a strong break[11]. In (6.b) the verse is at the beginning of an Eusebian section as well, although it is not explicitly signalled in the Slavic manuscripts[12]. The preceding verses (3,4b–6) are a quote from Isaiah 40:3–5. While *oὖv* connects the verse to the preceding discourse, *že* introduces it as a new move.

(6.c) is part of a narrative section: the function of *že* is the one illustrated in (2). The verse in (6.d) represents a new argument put forward by Jesus in its discourse pronounced in the Gethsemane: after having announced great tribulations (vv. 15–24), in v. 25 he affirms "See, I have told you ahead of time". With v. 26 starts a new section, where Jesus announces the return of the Son of the Man: *že* marks the transition to this new argument.

In (6.e) the textual connector points at a new narrative move, added to the preceding ones (27,15 *na vьsěkъ že denь* ... 16 *iměše že tъgda* ...), which continues in the following ones (19 *Sědęštju že emu* ... 20 *Arxierei že* ... 21 *otъvěštavъ že* ...). Moreover, in this case Greek *oὖv* adds an inferential nuance: in v. 15 the writer informs the reader that every year, during Passover, Pilate used to set free a prisoner, chosen by the crowd. The reader, knowing that the plot has reached exactly the point related to the Day of Passover, makes an inference: 'the crowd will gather to decide who to set free': *oὖv* makes this inference explicit, as does 'so' in the English translation.

In (6.f), the connector in bold is related to the first question of Pilate, since it signals a new development with respect to that one: its function is similar to what I discussed in (4)[13].

Half of the 16 occurrences of *že* translating Greek *καί*[14] are instances of *že* signalling the alternation of turns in dialogues as in (2). Another group[15] is formed by the cases in which *že* indicates a new move in the evolution of the narration.

(7) a. Mc 6,44 ědъšixъ **že** bě xlěby · pęть tysǫšть mǫžь ·
The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.
b. Lc 2,52 · isъ **že** spěaše prěmǫdrostijǫ i tělomъ i blagodatijǫ · otъ ᵒba · i ᵒčlkъ ⁘ ᵒkc ⁘
And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Both in (7.a) and in (7.b) the OCS translator employs *že* to signal a new move, following in both cases a long descriptive section tied together by a chain of *i*, as a summary or conclusion of the preceding discourse. Both verses, in fact, act as a break between what is said before and what is said in what follows.

The instances of *že* with no equivalent in Greek are distributed as follows:

a) *že* is used to signal a new move, co-occurring with a temporal adverb: *jegda* 'when' (Mt 21,40; Lk 11,24), *ješte* 'yet, still' (Mt 17,5; Mk 12,6), *poslědь* 'then, afterward' (Mk 12,22; 16,14), with the locutions *po sixъ* 'after this' (Jn 5,1), *po tomъ* 'after that' (Mk 4,17; 4,28; 4,28; Lk 8,12; 16,7; Jn 5,14; 11,7; 13,5; 19,27), *vъ utrěi denь* 'the next day' (Jn

[11] Similarly in Lk 19,12; Mk 16,19; Mt 10,16; Mt 24,15.
[12] Similarly in Mt 13,18 and Mk 3,31.
[13] In the *Staroslavjanskij Slovar'* (Cejtlin *et al.* 1999) similar cases are indexed under the use of *že* as an intensifying particle. A unitary interpretation of the facts seems to be more suitable.
[14] In particular: Mt 21,27; 22,20; Mk 12,34; 13,2; Lk 7,4; 18,42; 19,64; 20,8.
[15] In particular: Mk 3,7; 6,54; 11,14; 12,3; 16,11 and Mt 21,35.

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1,35; 1,44; 12,12); or with the adverb *těmь* 'therefore' (Mt 7,20; 12,12; 14,7; 19,6; 23,31; 27,8; Mk 2,27; 8,25; 10,8; Lk 7,7; 11,28)[16];

b) it signals a new move, as in (2): Mt 27,56[17]; Mk 9,7; 14,59; 16,13; Jn 1,41; 1,48; 5,15; 7,32; 11,56; 21,4; 21,11 or a new argument, as in (4): Mt 26,54; Mk 14,25[18]; Jn 2,10; 4,22; 5,7; 8,35; 9,25;

c) *že* is used to keep track of the turns in a dialogue: Mk 10,28; Jn 9,41; 9,28; 18,30; 20,16; 20,16; 21,5.

Two cases deserve particular attention:

(8) a. Mt 13,19 vьsěkъ iže slyšitъ slovesa ᵒcsarestvič · i ne razuměvaatъ · prixoditъ **že** nepriěznь i vъsxytaatъ sěnoe vъ ᵒsrdci ego ·

When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one**že** comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart.

b. Mt 22,25 bě že vъ nasъ sedmь bratrije · i prъvy oženь sę umьrětъ · i ne imy sěmene · ostavi **že** zenǫ svojǫ bratru svoemu ·

Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left **že** his wife to his brother.

In (8.a) *že* isolates the left dislocated constituent (with the genitive pronoun *ego* functioning as a reprise) from the rest of the sentence. It should be noted that *Zographensis* does not have *že*, while *Assemani* and *Savvina Kniga* do not show this passage. In a similar way in (8.b) *že* isolates a participle from the rest of the clause, without pronominal reprise: this seems to be an example of pseudo-parataxis[19] of OCS, which, according to Caldarelli (2005: 238), has "the purpose of recalling the attention of the beneficiary of the message on particular features of the message itself, and more generally it aims to gain a supplement of attention".

I will lastly consider the instances of *že* translating Greek *τε*[20]. In six of these occurrences the function of *že* is to signal the beginning of a new move in the narration (Mt 28,12; Lc 12,45; 21,11; 21,11; Gn 4,42; 6,18); in three instances (Mt 22,10; 23,12; Gn 2,15) the new act represents an apposition to a pronoun in the main clause: *že* specifies that it is a

[16] The *Staroslavjanskij Slovar'* (Cejtlin *et al.* 1999) has different entries for the majority of those adverbs + *že* (*e.g.*, one finds both *těmь* and *těmьže*). Večerka (1989: 43) notes how "[z]usammen mit einigen Adverbien der Zeit, der Art und Weise u. dgl. […] bildet das adjunktive *že* teilweise bereits eine usuelle Verbindung". As far as the translations of the Gospels are concerned, they seem to maintain a compositional meaning, so they will be dealt with consequently.

[17] In this passage it is not clear whether *vъ nixъ že* is to be read as a relative pronoun or as a demonstrative pronoun + *že*, indicating the start of a new move. Without any doubt, it was from similar cases that started the grammaticalization of the new OCS relative pronoun *iže*, formed by the demonstrative pronoun *i* + *že*. Similarly in Jn 5,4.

[18] In this passage *Zographensis* does not have *že*, while in *Marianus* it is preceded by a strong interpunctive mark (∴).

[19] For the term, see Caldarelli (2005: 235).

[20] The instances of *že* translating *μέν* indicate the beginning of a new move in narrative sections (Lk 3,18; Mt 25,15; Jn 11,6) or of a new argument in monological sections (Mt 26,24; Mk 14,21); this is true also for the cases where it translates Greek *μέντοι* (Jn 21,4) and *τότε* (Mt 27,58), while it indicates the beginning of a new argument when translating Greek *γάρ* (Lk 7,28; 19,26).

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parenthetical remark, clarifying what the pronoun refers to (and thus, it is not to be considered part of the main line of narration).

There seems to be only one exception (9):

(9) Lc 2,16, i pridǫ podvigъše sę · i obrětǫ marijǫ **že** i osifa · i mladenecъ ležęštъ vъ ěslexъ ·

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Zographensis has a stop between *že* and *i*; *Assemani* does not have *že*; *Sava's Book* is like *Marianus*. In this case there is no pronoun which allows to explain the whole as an apposition, and the punctuation prevents us from considering *marijǫ že i osifa i mladenecъ ležęštъ vъ ěslexъ* as a unit detached from the verb (*i.e.*, as if there were a pause between the verb and the object, to convey astonishment and expectation). Probably, in this case the employment of *že* has the function of presenting Mary and Joseph as a whole (as the parents) and to keep them separated from the baby, who was lying in the manger.

4. CONCLUSIONS

In section 3, we have seen how *že* is a purely intersentential connector (perhaps with the exception of the last few examples). Its main function is to signal the beginning of a new move, which develops the line of narration or the line of reasoning (in monological sections). As its Greek equivalent *δέ*, and following Runge (2010), I defined it as a *development marker*. Contrasting the OCS translation with the English one, it can be noted that the New International Version (NIV) usually does not translate Greek *δέ* at all. This is so for one reason: the English language does not have a development marker. However, this function is achieved by means of another device, namely punctuation marks and the visual organization of the text. In fact, on the one hand, contemporary editions make use of paragraphs with headlines – see *e.g.* (4) –, while ancient manuscripts had Eusebian sections marked in the margins, thus not interrupting the *scriptio continua*; on the other hand, the start of a new move, marked with a textual connector in Greek or Slavic (be it δέ or *že*), and thus having a fundamental role in the organization and in the segmentation of the text, is indicated by means of a full stop or of a line break in the NIV translation – see *e.g.* (3).

Moreover, it has been noted how the adversative nuance traditionally associated with *že* and its function as a marker of topic switch are in reality determined by the contexts in which the connector operates, and thus are not to be considered as core properties of the connector. In fact, both are corollaries of the fact that *že* typically marks the start of a new thematic chain, which, under appropriate conditions, may be read as contrastive.

Lastly, from the study of *že* it is undeniable that the translators of the Gospels did not follow the Greek text slavishly: they introduced the connector whenever it was felt necessary and especially in the Gospel of John they used it instead of *ubo* to translate Greek *οὖν*.

As a conclusion, it can be said that from the study of particles in OCS (and, of course, in other ancient languages) we can gain a better understanding of how that language worked. This seems to be especially true for a language with free word order, where the

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role of the functional and pragmatic structuring of the discourse was more prominent than in a language with rigid syntactical order, as *e.g.* English.

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