

### **Variant values**

- 1     s
- 2     h

### **Diachronic explanation of variants**

(1) Retention. The variant <s>, which surfaces in the adverbial form *\_tajsja\_* in Central Romani, seems to maintain the original, Proto-Romani sibilant of the adverb *\*\_tasja\_* from Greek *\_taxiá\_* [taçia] with /x/ having a voiceless palatal fricative as its allophone.

(2) Innovation. The variant <h>, which is reflected in the adverbial form *\_táha\_* in Central Romani, has developed by debuccalization of the sibilant in *\*\_tasja\_*, giving way to *\*\_tahja\_* and in turn *\_táha\_*.

### **Attestation of forms**

LQCR, RMS, some publications

### **Geographical distribution of variants in Central Romani**

(1) The variant <s> is attested in two discontinuous areas: a) in the Plaščuno dialect and b) in the north of Central Romani. The northern area consists of all varieties of the Northern, Eastern, Middle and Western North Central subgroups and almost all varieties of the Middle Transitional subgroup.

(2) The variant <h> occurs in a single contiguous area, in the south of Central Romani. This area comprises all varieties of the South Central group, all Eastern and Western Transitional varieties and a few adjacent varieties of the Middle Transitional subgroup (viz. Jastrabá, Bátovce, Santovka).

### **Geographical distribution of variants in neighbouring dialect groups**

Both Central Romani variants are attested in the neighbouring dialect groups:

(1) The variant <s> is found in most neighbouring dialect groups of Central Romani, viz. in Northeastern, Sinti, Transylvanian and Arli Romani.

(2) The variant <h> occurs in the neighbouring dialect groups to the east and south of Central Romani, viz. in Transylvanian, Lovari, Gurbet and Dolenjski Romani. These dialect groups constitute a dialect continuum with the southern varieties of Central Romani.