Abstract (in English):

The aim of this thesis is to provide a comprehensive description of the Czech construction with retroactive infinitives, such as *Ta skříň potřebuje opravit* (‘That cupboard needs fixing’) and *Nepotřebuju od tebe pomoct* (‘I don't need help from you’), which express a passive meaning through an active form of the verb. These constructions are therefore considered hidden passives.

The theoretical part describes the general possibilities of using infinitives and infinitive constructions, with an emphasis on constructions with semi-lexical matrix verbs. It also focuses on the possibility of expressing passive perspective through canonical passive and other secondary diatheses, particularly the agent–patient and agent–addressee/recipient diatheses, as the relationships between these actants are also central to retroactive infinitives. Additionally, it summarizes the current state of research on retroactive infinitives and their theoretical description.

The subsequent empirical part presents an analysis of sentences with retroactive infinitives based on the material from the Czech National Corpus, analysing their properties in comparison to active and canonically passive constructions. In some characteristics, retroactive infinitives resemble passives, particularly in reflexivity, subject properties, and the consistent removal of the agent from the subject position. Unlike the canonical passive, retroactive infinitives show a clear preference for perfective aspect in the infinitive and allow the subject position to be occupied by the semantic role of the addressee/benefactor, making them a competitive form of the canonical passive for expressing passive meaning in sentences where the nominative noun phrase position is explicitly occupied by a structural dative.

Klíčová slova (anglicky):

passive voice, retroactive infinitive, infinitive, (pseudo)modal verb, construction, argument structure, corpus linguistics, Czech language