Abstract

This master thesis provides a relatively detailed description of the consonant-vowel structure of standard spoken Czech. The first part covers approaches to and findings on the combinatorial system and distribution of sound units in speech; aspects of continuous speech segmentation into intonation phrases and stress groups, phonotactics of languages in general and Czech in particular, and speech rhythm are also addressed. Recordings of 12 professional speakers of Czech - comprising 6639 words and 5368 stress groups in total – have been used to create data sets that have enabled the author to describe CVCV structures of Czech words and stress groups. The results of this research present frequencies of words and stress groups and their relations to word-class dimension, frequencies of phones in words and stress groups; in this respect, both syllabic liquids and glottal stops have been taken into account. Further, the thesis includes an overview of the most frequent CVCV patterns in words and stress groups and their variability with regard to word classes. The final part focuses on how frequently consonants, vowels and their pairs and trios occur at different places within a unit. The results are continuously compared both between themselves and with the research that used the larger SYN2005 written corpus (2009). This thesis may form a basis for further research on related linguistic areas (e.g. phonotactics in dialects, speech styles of Czech, etc.).