

On the motivated polysemy of the Lithuanian **PO** and the English **UNDER**

Ieva Stasiūnaitė
Vilnius University, Lithuania
ieva.stasiunaite@ff.vu.lt

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Motivated polysemy as the major tenet of cognitive linguistics is well illustrated in a plethora of works on prepositions (Lakoff 1987; Langacker 1987; Tabakowska 2010; Shakhova & Tyler 2010; Šeškauskienė & Žilinskaitė 2015, Stasiūnaitė 2018, etc.). However, the Lithuanian **po** still relies on intuitive explication, not supported by any corpus data, which reflects the traditional line of investigation. The English **under**, acting as the primary translation equivalent of **po**, on the other hand, has received more attention in a cognitive vein (Dirven 1993; Taylor 1993; Coventry et al. 2001; Tyler & Evans 2003), except for the relatedness of its senses. Cross-linguistic studies have not been undertaken either.

Thus, the paper aims at: (1) establishing senses of **po** and **under** as (2) related and (3) comparing these two semantic networks. In order to achieve this, 1000 concordances are taken from the Corpus of Contemporary Lithuanian Language (CCLL) and 1000 from the British National Corpus (BYU-BNC). The fiction section is selected to illustrate a wide range of meanings. The Principled Polysemy Model (Tyler & Evans 2003), used as the main methodology, distinguishes between senses conventionalized in memory and their contextual variants produced for the purpose of local understanding. It also suggests prompts for primary sense identification: earlier attested meaning, predominance in the semantic network, use in composite forms, etc. Contextual clues are also an important factor.

The results reveal that the primary sense based on a proto-spatial scene of the Figure (F) underneath the Ground (G) functions as a direct and/or indirect derivational basis for a variety of senses of **po** and **under**. Some of them are concrete and distinguished according to the types of F and G and their relationships (functional, geometric, etc.), and/or relations between F/G and the viewer. In meaning extension, which is explicated in the framework of metaphor and metonymy, some elements manifest an increase in the level of abstraction or become backgrounded due to other elements relevant for the spatial scene. The comparison of the two networks reveals that **po** and **under** differ in the number and positioning of the senses, which hinders their substitution in some contexts. The discrepancies may be influenced by the neighbouring/contrasting categories and/or the nature of the languages.

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